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## front PAGE

The concept of the Promise will always be central to the ethos of Guiding. We all know that Guiding without Duty to God, service to the Queen, helping other people and a high standard of personal behaviour would not be Guiding. It would simply be a club providing opportunities for crafts, music, outdoor activities and international experiences. I would fight any attempt to destroy our legacy, making Guiding yet another youth club.

Our commitment was made in the words of the current Promise — nothing can change that. However, what the Soundings Group were discussing was whether the form of words is still relevant for the future. Should we be looking at words which may have changed their meaning —

such as 'duty' and 'serve'? Will it help

girls in the future to understand the

relevance of that commitment if the wording is up-dated?

I love the simplicity of the present

Promise, which was written for young people. It can be easily learned by anyone from 7 to 65. Who wants to read from a card at a Promise Ceremony? The most we can promise is to do our best — no one can do more than that. Anyone of any faith can substitute her own name for God — this provision has always been there. The Promise ceremony is probably the most important occasion for a new Brownie, and she can be helped to grow in understanding that Promise as she progresses.

The Queen and the Queen Mother as Patrons, and Princess Margaret as our President, have given us tremendous support over many, many years. The Queen is head of our country and 'to serve the Queen' is symbolic of 'serving the country in which I live'. Anyone wishing to be a member of the UK GGA should accept this part of the Promise.

But the fact that the Association has had a debate such as this is a most

tremendous achievement. It is surely a good thing that we have all had to think deeply about our commitment, and actively seek out others to discuss it with — openly and honestly.

In all my years in the Movement, I have never known so many members up in arms about a possible 'threat to Guiding'. Talking about the Promise has never been easy. If the article in GUIDING has made it easier for Guiders to talk to young members about their Promise and with other adults about their commitment, then a great barrier has been surmounted. This must be an enormous step forward for Guiding in the future.

I would like to thank everyone who has taken the trouble to write letters on this subject.

JANE GARSIDE The Chief Commissioner

• See pages 12-14 for an interim report on the Promise debate.

## GUIDING

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Snowballs at the ready, Brownies Diksha Patel (left) and Raakhee Ladva are prepared for anything the winter weather can throw at them. Both girls are members of the 9th Southall Pack, Middlesex.

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or telephone 071 834 6242 and ask for a catalogue 'Guiding is great'.



## Round UP

## SHIP SHAPE

West Yorkshire West County achieved a Guiding first when the County bought a 12-berth, 56ft long narrow boat.

The boat was named the Spirit of Guiding by the former County Commissioner Jenny Leach, watched by the Chief Commissioner Jane Garside, at a ceremony on the Rochdale Canal at Todmorden.

It was a dream come true when the County became the first to own a narrow boat. It took two years to raise the £30,000 purchase price and the boat will be used by Guiders who want to train for the Power Cruising Permit and for holidays.

## **GREEN GUIDES**

▼Guides from the 63rd Barnsley Company dug deep to clear an overgrown well and horse-trough at Hoyland Swaine, South Yorkshire as part of a conservation project.

The girls were joined in their back-bending work by their acting-Guider, Margaret Graham, and District Commissioner Ann Flowerday.

The girls cleared lots of weeds and mud from both the well and trough.



## Round UP

## POSTAL APPEAL

VRangers, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows in Ilkeston Division, Derbyshire have joined forces to 'Raise the Roof'.

They have launched a correspondence campaign to raise the cash to put a new roof on their headquarters.

Letters have been posted to local businesses, charities and even pubs, asking for help with their roof-raising appeal.





## **PUPPY LOVE**

VAssistant Brownie Guider, Wendy McCann and her Pack, the 3rd Radcliffe (Wesley) Brownies raised £250 in just 18 months to adopt a Guide dog puppy named Wesley.

Inspired by Wendy, whose three-year-old daughter had a sight-saving operation two years ago, the Pack saved stamps and cans to raise the money. A cheque was then handed over to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association,

who bought Wesley and are now training him.

The Lancashire Pack is pictured receiving a framed portrait of Wesley from Mrs Barbara Yorath and her Guide dog, who are regular visitors to Pack meetings.

## WRAPPING STAD

Christmas 'wrapping' stardom was the prize for Brownie Kimberley Travis. Her Christmas gift wrapping paper design was selected from thousands of other entries in a competition run by W H Smith.

Kimberley and her Pack, the 10th Castleford (United Reformed Church), West Yorkshire, entered the competition after drawing their designs during meetings.

Her prize included a threeminute dash around her local W H Smith's shop in Pontefract and Kimberley managed to scoop up £500 worth of goodies. Her mum, Dorothy, said proudly: 'She was a true Brownie, all she wanted to do was grab lots of gifts for her friends and family.'

A W H Smith spokesperson said they had been very impressed with the design: 'It was very bright and colourful, and we knew it would be very effective on a sheet of wrapping paper.' The designs were to be sold in a special pack at 500 W H Smith shops around the country.





## FLYING FINALE

▲The sky was the limit for Miss Bridget Towle when she celebrated seven years as Leicestershire's County Commissioner.

Girls and leaders from all over the County met up at their County camp site, Topstones, for a special farewell. As the thank-you speeches and presentations ended, a helicopter landed to whisk Bridget away on an hour-long

trip above the Leicestershire countryside.

The trip was a complete surprise, but she enjoyed every breath-taking minute. Her successor, Mrs Ronnie Johnson, took over last September.

'We are really grateful for all the work Bridget's put in, so we wanted to do something a bit different to thank her,' said Ronnie.

Bridget is chairman of the Finance Committee.

## eastern promise

Links between British Guides and members of the former Young Pioneer movement are encouraging the spread of Guiding in the ex-Eastern bloc.

It will be a while yet before Guiding, now spreading through countries that formed the Soviet Union, is a thriving force all over Eastern Europe.

But there are encouraging signs that the links with what used to be the Young Pioneer movement are fostering the revival, as Barbara Langhorne, International Adviser for Lancashire West, can confirm.

Last June, Barbara accompanied a party of

11 Guiders, Young Leaders and Rangers from the County on an exchange visit to Lithuania.

Not only did she meet one of Lithuania's top Guide leaders, but she also discussed possible exchange visits with Polish Guides, when Barbara and her team paused in Warsaw for some sightseeing.

This all came about as a result of a visit by former Young Pioneers to Lancashire West's international camp, Tog '91, as Barbara explains:

The group's leaders were Larisa Gasparyan, from the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius, and Tatyana Starovojt, from Moscow.

We arranged our visit to Lithuania while Larisa, who is very interested in Guiding, was at our County's permanent camp site, near Lancaster, in 1991.

On the way out we first had two days of very enjoyable sightseeing in Warsaw, having flown there direct. A Polish Guider, Magdalena, and a Scout, who both spoke excellent English, showed us round.

We stayed in student accommodation and had great fun counting our zloties, which worked out at 24,000 to the pound! It made us feel like millionaires.

While we were there, Magdalena



suggested that there should be exchange visits between our County and the Warsaw Guides.

From Warsaw we flew to Vilnius from where we were taken by coach to a permanent camp site, set amid beautiful pine trees and a lake.

The site was owned by the national airline and used mainly as a holiday centre for airline staff and their families.

Accommodation was in chalet-like buildings, but they had no water supply or toilets. The toilets were earth closets in a primitive wooden but

To wash ourselves we had one tap, serving three adjacent sinks, in the open air, with no privacy.

All meals were taken in a restaurant on the camp site. Our girls found the food very different. For breakfast there was pâté, slices of meat and cheese.

Meat was plentiful and, much to the disgust of the girls, they even killed a pig and a cow in our honour.

Some of the girls felt unable to eat meat for several days after leaving the restaurant and seeing the poor cow lying in a pool of blood. The same cow had been happily eating hay when we went in for our meal.

However, despite a few culture shocks of this kind, we all enjoyed

ourselves immensely. The people were so friendly and welcoming.

We spent ten days at the camp and, although there was no programme of organised activities, the time flew by very pleasantly.

We went rowing on the lake and, on one occasion, crossed to the other side to look at a natural spring.

In camp, the girls could play table tennis and varous other games. In the evenings we enjoyed a couple

of saunas, a camp fire, a barbecue and a wide game.

Naturally, we had a look round Vilnius, which dates back 600 years. It boasts a fine university and many splendid buildings.

After camp we were given home hospitality in Vilnius during the next ten days, then came the big highlight of our trip — an excursion by train to Moscow.

To show us the sights we had an English-speaking leader of the former Pioneers, a young male colleague of Tatyana Starovojt, who was also there to meet us.

Moscow was ferociously hot but our escort was excellent — the girls even persuaded him to take us to McDonald's, the only place you could buy a really cold drink!

But life is difficult in the former USSR. Stefa, one of Lithuania's top Guide leaders, told us of the struggle to re-establish Guiding in her homeland. They are desperately short of money and equipment.

With their determination and some help from British Guiding. I know they will succeed.





## Guiding

Every commuter's nightmare, 12 hours on the Underground, proved a real moneyspinner for Guides from Upminster South District.

You must be mad," was the response of friends and relatives when the newly-formed Upminster South Action Plus Group announced plans for their first, big fundraising stunt.

Their mission? To visit all 272 London Underground stations within a 12-hour period to raise money for the National Meningitis Trust

You'll never do it,' warned sceptical families. But the group were determined. After all, they did have the advantage of an insider in the system — a 'mole' in the Underground so to speak.

For their Guider, 22-year-old Joanne Morris, works as a Personnel Officer on the District line. A word with the General Manager produced free Travelcards for the group and cut the costs of the expedition immediately.

Although all the girls had a station near their home, few of them had much experience of travelling by tube. Negotiating the huge network of stations within the time-limit was going to take careful planning. So the operation had to be plotted with military precision.

Hours were spent studying large scale Underground maps to establish the routes of the Metropolitan. Hammersmith and City. and Circle lines And Upminster South District is proud to report that the girls all now know the difference between a London Underground station, a British Rail station and a Docklands Light Railway station.

The team — Guides from Upminster South District in Essex West, led by the District Action Plus Group — was

divided into four smaller groups, each including a Guider.

Each group was then allocated a section of the Underground to cover on an alphabetical basis.

'It sounds easy put like that,' said Assistant Guider Nicky Parker. But don't you believe it.

'One group had all the stations A to E to do, plus a few dozen extra. They found themselves going from Acton to Aldgate and then back to Amersham Look on a tube map and see how far that is!'

An early start was essential to catch some of the stations which are only open during peak hours. In fact, said Joanne, we left so early in the morning that the local papers refused to come

But, thanks to all that precision planning, the expedition went off with very few hiccups.





## in action

There was, of course, the incident when half of one group went through the wrong ticket barriers at Victoria and couldn't, at first, work out how to rejoin the rest of their party.

The ability not to be able to negotiate the Underground seems to run in families Emily and Amy Hough were in separate groups. But both sisters made the classic error of staying on a train after the rest of her group had hopped off.

Luckily, contingency plans had been made and the parties reformed at the next station down the line. Each group had previously agreed on a well-known meeting place in Central London, in case a party got hopelessly split up and lost. But no one needed to resort to that

The Guides did discover a whole new way of life going on under the

pavements. They travelled with commuters, shoppers and day trippers.

Why does everyone sit in silence on the Tube? was their most frequent question. Everyone except Upminster South District that is.

Off-train entertainment was provided by an assortment of buskers singing Simon and Garfunkel and Ralph McTell songs. The girls' main regret was that they saw so little of those *Streets of London* they kept hearing about.

The 'end of the line' took on a new meaning as everyone looked forward to a brief glimpse of daylight.

There was only one way to fill the time. We ate lunch at Heathrow, lunch on the train, lunch at Amersham, recalled Nicky. In fact, lunch went on all day as a way to kill the boredom.

Twelve hours later the verdict was 'mission accomplished'. In all, counting double-ups and flying visits, the group visited a total of 700 stations and raised £500 through sponsorship.

The money will go to the National Meningitis Trust in memory of a local Brownie Guider who died of meningitis at the tragically early age of 19.

'She died very suddenly last November,' explained Joanne. 'She had only just started university. So we wanted to raise the money in memory of her.'

The blisters, the boredom and the aching legs from climbing endless stairs and escalators had all been worth it.

However. Upminster South Action Plus Group would like to extend their apologies to any commuters they may have inconvenienced by not keeping to the 'vow of silence'!

DIANA WALLACE



Rena McGowan, the County's Ranger
Adviser, who was among Stok Kangri's
conquerors, takes up the story.

Two weeks before the final assault we arrived in Delhi, jet-lagged and

then pole-axed by the heat, but a good sleep and a loll by the hotel pool worked wonders. During our two-day stay in the city we even managed a trip to the fabulous Taj Mahal.

Then we flew to Leh, the mountain village at 3.505m — 11,200ft — from where we were to go on a five-day acclimatisation trek before the Big Climb became

Climb began.

Skimming over the mountain tops made it a spectacular flight but on landing at Leh the effects of the altitude hit us for six. Heads spun and pulses raced.

Still, after Delhi, even if the air was thin it was sweet, the sun bright and the scenery stunning. The cafe-type hotel, where we were staying, was welcoming and soon we were engulfed in a highly international community of warm, friendly people.

As we adjusted to the altitude, we visited bazaars and Buddhist monasteries, called gompas. The stall holders in Leh's markets may not have met many Ranger Guides before but they knew a pack of bargain-hunters when they saw them.

Jane Currie got the "Wheeler-dealer Award" by bartering an old burn bag, a well-used Biro, plus two rupees about 4p — for a traditional Ladaki hat

Our acclimatisation trek started with a six-hour jeep ride — "hold on tight and don't look down!" The trekking increased in length day by day, as we climbed higher and higher. We had to drink lots of water, walk at an extremely slow, steady pace and protect ourselves from the burning sun.

We walked along barren mountain tracks, scrambled up stony slopes, followed a river for a long distance along a "coastal" path and crossed areas which could only be described as desert.

Our performance varied from day to day according to the state of our health. We had to cope with stomach upsets, sickness, dizziness, altitude headaches, and just get on with it.

Nothing could be allowed to prevent us reaching our next camp site, but we supported one another as a team and everyone kept going.

As we sweated and panted our way up the steep slopes gasping for breath, we kept telling ourselves how glad we were to be fit!

Camp sites varied from a flattish, stone-strewn area, resembling a car park to a patch of grass by the river. Wherever "home" was for the night, we would search for a suitable "toilet" — a boulder, if we were lucky — and wash in a cold stream.

We had gone on the expedition with a professional trekking company, who



In Agra, home to the Taj Mahal, Irene Currie became the 'Million Dollar Guide Leader' — but not for long!

The Stok Kangri team visited the shop of a local jeweller who, when he saw their T-shirts, revealed that he was a former Scout.

He then invited the team to see his fabulous private collection and bedecked Irene with a necklace of carved emeralds, diamonds and pearls, and a huge emerald and diamond ring — total value: 2.6 million dollars.

Unfortunately, after Irene had posed for the camera, dripping with sparklers, the jeweller asked for them back!

dealt with the local difficulties and took care of domestic matters such as hiring donkeys to carry our kit.

They provided us with a wonderful gang of sherpa-type cook boys who pitched our tents and prepared our meals, awakening us each morning at dawn with a mug of tea, a pint of hot water for washing — and a chorus of Ging Gang Goolie.

With the acclimatisation trip over, having reached a height of 4,130m, we headed back to Leh for a couple of rest days before the Big Climb. Time for some serious shopping, sunbathing and trips to the local "Dreamland Hotel" for egg and chips at 36p.

The start of our summit trek took us higher into the mountains, so on went our thermals. The excitement of reaching base camp made up for the two-day hard slog to get there.

But waking up next morning at 4,890m told on us all — headaches and nausea. It was snowing and very cold so Mike, our mountain leader

The Nine Summitteers: Rena McGowan; Irene Currie and her daughter, Jane; Sharon Perkins; Joanne Goldie; Kathy Waldron; Joanne Osbourne; Mike (climb leader) and Paul (Venture Scout leader). from Himalayan Kingdoms, declared a day of complete rest.

In the fashion of all famous expedition teams, we spent the day in our sleeping bags, playing cards and peering out at the snow.

Then, with crampons at the ready, ice axes in hand and our heavy boots on, off we set on the climb to advanced base camp, known in the jargon of us seasoned mountaineers, as "ABC". It turned out to be just some rocks at the foot of a glacier.

On summit day we woke to snow, fog — and doubts. Would we make it to the top? However, we set off to climb a hill the like of which we had never experienced before. Deep snow on the glacier, fog and the altitude made it exhausting. Pausing for breath every five paces became the norm.

When we reached the ridge, we had a difficult and sometimes frightening scramble to get across. But, with a rope for safety and a lot of grim determination, we made it. At last we were all set for the final ascent.

A bit more grunting and gasping and at 1pm we were there — right on the peak with nowhere else to go except down.

Exhilaration, big grins, laughter, lots of posing for photos and congratulations all round, as Mike presented all of us with our special "Stok Kangri" medals.

All 13 team members had started out from ABC. Nine of us had made it to the summit. Now we had to tackle the descent which was going to be every bit as difficult.

Once again, we tackled the treacherous crossing of the ridge, and then slid our way down the long snowy glacier to base camp.

Back in Leh we encountered problerns with internal flights so we opted for a three-day bus journey back to Delhi, averaging about 16 hours a day, and not to be recommended.

The bus broke down several times, apart from having to make frequent stops because two of the party felt so ill. I was also unwell, with a chest infection caused by all the dust and dirt from the roads.

So, much to the dismay of our "welcome home committee" at Gatwick, we arrived home four days late, having missed our connection from Delhi.

Looking back, elation and despair were never apart. In fact, one Ranger was heard to say. "When I get back, remind me to take up embroidery."

But she'll do no such thing, of course Because for all of us — even those who didn't quite make it to the top — it was a thrilling, unforgettable experience no one could regret ?

RENA McGOWAN

## THE GREAT DEBATE

In July's GUIDING members were urged to take part in a debate on the Promise and to consider a review of the wording. We promised to keep readers informed of any developments. In November Jane Lewes, Adviser for Programme and Training Development, gave an interim report to The Council of the Girl Guides Association reflecting members' response to the article. What follows is a summary of that presentation with the main issues illustrated by quotes from some of the thousands of letters received and all read up

until October.

When the Soundings Group came together at Waddow at the end of March, I don't think any of us had the slightest inkling that our weekend together and the subsequent report of our discussions in GUIDING were going to send such powerful shock waves through the Movement. In retrospect, it seems as if we lit the blue touch paper and stood back.

The purpose of the group was to initiate discussion about the Promise, and share those discussions with the membership through *GUIDING*. Quite deliberately, the group had no official status — its members were not representing anyone but themselves.

They were not empowered to take any decisions and were invited because of the diversity of their Guiding experience.

Apart from the Director of Communications, they are all active volunteer members of the Movement bringing to the group a wide range of standpoints and opinions — the healthiest mixture for any debate.

The role of the Soundings Group was that of the speck of grit which so irritates the oyster that it gets to work and eventually produces a pearl. Their initial input was the pebble thrown into the pond and the ripples are still being felt. This is how two correspondents viewed the Sounding Group.

"Trendies, Republicans and Feminists."

"Trendy HQ teams out of touch with what is going on at ground level."

Another commented:

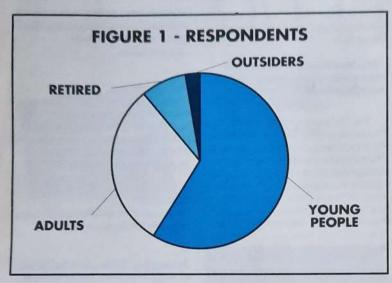
"These were the proposals of one group meeting one weekend, and should be treated as such."

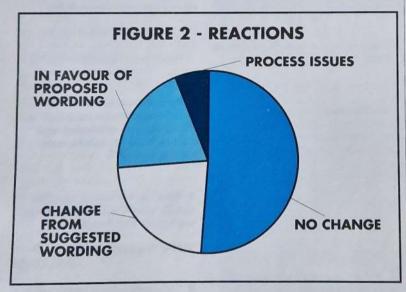
It was the original intention of the group to publish the report of their weekend in September, opening the debate and encouraging discussion at every level of the Movement for at least six months. However, it was later

... and led to lots of responses on other issues than the Promise.

In retrospect, it was probably not a good idea to publish *Hotline* and the Soundings' report simultaneously.

By October 1 we had received about





decided to bring forward publication to July to coincide with the *Hotline* announcements about the Vision Statement and Objectives and the additional issues of the name, badge and logo changes.

The decision to bring it forward confused the issues and led to some people believing it was a pointless exercise and that the decision to change the Promise had already been taken.

It caused problems over being able to consult as widely as the article had advocated ....

'Terrible timing on your part, putting this into July GUIDING when everyone's on holiday.'' 6,000 letters and, even now, letters are continuing to come in at the rate of about 600 a week. This actually represents the views of many more than that, since many have written on behalf of Packs, Companies, Units, Districts, Trefoil Guilds... It is probably the largest single response to any issue in the history of the Movement.

In spite of the significant amount of work involved in reading all the correspondence, the decision to open up the debate was a sound one and appreciated by our members.

"Raising the issue is a good thing, whatever the eventual outcome."

The volume of the responses indicates

that the Guiding method works — members feel confident about stating their views, challenging the opinions of others and asking questions without passively accepting what they read as a *'fait accompli'*. This, too, can only be a good thing

For a breakdown of who replied and their reactions see figures one and two. It is probable that both these will change when the next batch of letters has been dealt with.

Some principal themes have emerged from the letters, expressed over and over again. The first batch of post was largely very negative — writers were angry, confused and hostile. Quite understandably, they vented their ire in letters which were largely knee-jerk reactions. With more time, the letters have become more considered, thoughtful and positive.

The wording for the Promise suggested in the article was not acceptable to the majority of the readers who variously regarded it as:

"vague"..."woolly"...
"wordy"..."too modern"...
"patronising" and "very suspect."

But it, nevertheless, had the effect of swinging the pendulum of the debate into action. As with changes in many organisations, the result of the Promise debate is likely to be that this particular pendulum will, eventually, come to rest where it is acceptable for the vast majority of our membership.

"The benefits to our young people of changing the wording of the Promise into something that doesn't need decoding should not be sacrificed."

Another trend worth reporting is the positive response, especially by our young members, to an explicit reference to the environment.

Many members, including the girls, expressed pleasure at being consulted on such an important matter.

"I am glad you have given me the chance to write because it is hard to express my feelings at Guides because my Guider is dead against changing it."

Finally, it is encouraging to report that many Guiders have initiated debate about the Promise with their units. It would seem that participation and democracy are alive and well in Packs. Companies and Units up and down the country.

Looking at the key issues raised so far by the debate, the first concerns language. The words of both the present Promise and those proposed by the Soundings Group cause difficulties for a significant number of members in two areas.

## FIRST - DUTY TO GOD

"The word duty is somewhat forbidding."

"We do our duty to God by attending Church Parade."

"Duty to God is like being out in the country and saying 'Wow God! This is wonderful — thank you!'."

## SECOND — SERVE THE QUEEN

"What does it mean, for goodness sake? If it means keep the law, then it should say that."

"Without the Queen we may just as well be living in a republic."

We have, therefore, a real challenge to define what we mean in words which makes sense to today's girl:

"Guiding belongs to the girls of today. Let's keep it simple for them so they can have fun living by a code they can understand."

And to find words which make simple, explicit and credible the unchanging values of Guiding for today's members:

"Maybe a change is due because of the difficulty I have as a Guider, in explaining the Promise to new Guides."

"It should be a Promise that grows with us and not one we need to grow into."

The second issue concerns the continuing belief that we are exclusively a Christian organisation:

"Surely we should make our Christian stand quite clear?"

Then there is the sensitive matter of our relationship with the churches:

"As a church, I fail to see why we should offer free use of premises to an organisation which no longer even remotely makes any claim to things Christian."

The responses from the girls were refreshing in their frankness:

"It is just something you say so that you can belong."

"I don't agree with praying as I don't really believe in God. But I still enjoy Guides and that is the main thing."

--- va-

with those of some of our adult members is sometimes quite marked.

"If a girl does not understand the Promise and Law as they are today, she is not made of Guiding material."

There is also a concern about some of the letters which contain overtones of racism:

"Are the ethnic minorities that have entered this country going to influence everything we do?"

The important issue which was raised again and again was the fear that any change in the wording of the Promise will, inevitably, mean the loss of a precious part of our history and traditions, rupturing the continuity of over 80 years. These concerns are by no means confined to the older members of the Movement.

## All the letters received were read by at least two volunteers/ staff at CHQ.

"I like making the same Promise as my Mum."

Yet, by contrast, one Guider wrote:

"Guiders should not commit themselves to traditions but to Guiding; you cannot guide today's young people with yesterday's values and traditions."

The five key questions arising from the mammoth reading of all the letters, which should be addressed by the Association as it strives to translate our Vision Statement for the '90s into a reality, are:

## 1. Do we need to change the aim of Guiding as stated in the Guiding Manual?

"There is no reason why Guiding should be open to absolutely everybody — if people do not believe in God they cannot be Guides, and that is not negotiable."

## 2. What kind of organisation are we?

## Religious:

"You can't force people to be religious."

"Guiding is a religious Movement and that is not something to be ashamed of."

## Secular:

"The Movement is contemplating becoming at best a multi-faith organisation, at worst a secular, uniformed Movement."

"It would seem preferable to make the organisation completely secular than to open it up to a multi-faith conglomeration."

## Educational:

"If we can guide a few girls through adolescence and bring them to womanhood as skilled, self-sufficient people, able to care for themselves and others, with high ideals, then we will have done well as Guiders."

### Leisure

"I wonder if we are in danger of taking ourselves a little too seriously?"

## 3. Having defined what kind of organisation we are, how do we communicate it to:

Our own people (adult leaders and girls): the churches; sponsors; the community and the general public?

- 4. How do we set about the task? How do we respond to the different attitudes and values held by adults and young people?
- 5. How do we come up with words which will ensure that we retain the Promise?

"As the Association's ace card." 9

JANE LEWES

● The Council accepted the interim report and, after some discussion. The Chief Commissioner thanked Jane Lewes, Adviser for Programme and Training Development, and Pat Ledwith, Director of Guiding Activities for their preparation and presentation Another report should be received by The Council at its meeting in May

Copies of the original article published in *GUIDING* in July 1992 can be obtained from the Communications Division at CHQ, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W OPT. Please enclose a sae.

## BARK



## I REMEMBER

by Fara Lynn Krasnopolsky The Women's Press, £5.95

From another era and another world comes this powerful evocation of life for a Jewish child in pre-revolutionary Russia

Hungry to learn, Hannah has to wait until her turn comes in the quota system before she can go to school. Her fierce determination to overcome the constraints imposed by her religion and the family's precarious financial position will touch the heart of all those in sympathy with the advancement of girls and women.

## WOMEN AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Prepared by Annabel Rodda Zed Books, £9.95

Another in the Women and World Development series which looks at the impact of global development issues on women

It charts the effect the ongoing deterioration in the environment is having on women's lives. Yet women as users, producers and managers of the earth's resources can — and should — be a major force for change.

The author draws on material from a wide range of sources, providing many examples and citing leading experts' opinions.

## WALKING THE PEAK AND PENNINES

by Mike Harding Michael Joseph, £17.99

This isn't one of those worthy, factoozing walking books. Mike Harding mixes folk lore, history and gossip along with those all-important route directions.

A keen rambler and conservationist, Mike Harding was president of the Ramblers' Association in 1986. And, yes, it is Mike Harding the well-known entertainer.

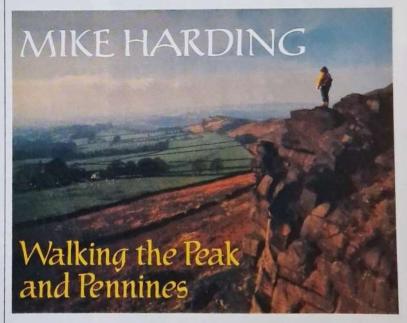
that keeps you reading, until it's long past the time a working girl should switch off the light and get some sleep.

## ACTS OF DEFIANCE

by Jack Ashley Reinhardt Books, £17.99

Anyone reading Jack Ashley's life story must be humbled by his achievements.

The son of a labourer, he left school at 14. At 22 he had won a seat on his trade union's national executive and was one of Britain's youngest local councillors.



The stunning photographs and verbal imagery make this a book that will appeal to the armchair wanderer as much as 'real' ramblers.

## **MOTHER LOVE**

by Susan Goodman Michael Joseph, £14.99

A superior saga, this revolves around the lives of three powerfully drawn women. Megan; her mother Vera, and her Nan, who provided the stability in Megan's life.

The intense interplay of emotions that exists between mother and daughter is fascinating. It's the sort of tale

He won scholarships first to Oxford and then Cambridge, where he became the first working class President of the Cambridge Union Society.

He was tipped as a future minister when he entered parliament in 1966. Then came disaster — a small, 'safe' operation left him totally deaf.

Persuaded not to resign his seat. Jack Ashley campaigned ceaselessly for others who suffered.

Last year he switched the battleground to the House of Lords, where he will continue to fight to improve people's lives. Here's to the next chapter in an inspiring life.

NORA WARNER

## Network

### **SPLASH OUT**

Imagine bathing in a tub of thick, chocolate sauce! Well now you can — thanks to an original new product called Saucery, just one of the zany products from the Cosmetics to Go luxury range.

Saucery is a bubble bath that looks and smells just like chocolate sauce — except you're not meant to eat it. Just pour a little under a running bath tap to create a mass of chocolatey bubbles that will cleanse tired skin.

Other products in the luxury range include Violet Nights — a purple bath oil that turns cloudy when you pour it into the bath — and a ginger, lavender and sandalwood concoction called Twilight.

None of the Cosmetics to Go products are tested on animals. For a free catalogue ring: 0800 373 366, a freephone number. Or write to: Cosmetics to Go, 29 High Street, Poole, Dorset BH15 1AB.



## **OZONE FRIENDLY**

▼We've all heard of the ozone layer — but do you really know what it is? For example, did you know that its name derives from the Greek word 'ozo' which means smell?

Why is the ozone layer get-

runs until January 10.

It's called Ozone — A Cover Story and contains everything you ever wanted to know about the ozone layer — and lots you didn't know you didn't know!

The Science Museum is in Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DD. Tel: 071 938 8080.

## **MAKE TRACKS**

Where are you planning to take the girls this year? What about a trip back in time to those glorious days when trams were the very best way to travel?

After closing for the winter, the National Tramway Museum is set to re-open in March to welcome visitors from all over the world. Every season the museum attracts more than 150,000 visitors and, in 1990, it was named Independent Railway Museum

of the Year.

The museum is home to more than 40 steam, horse-drawn and electric trams — many painstakingly restored by staff and volunteers.

At the museum you can experience the thrill of riding on beautifully-restored vintage trams. Visitors are encouraged to take as many tram journeys as they like.

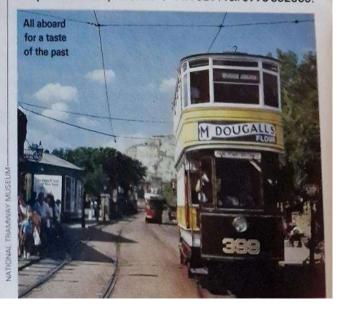
Every year, members of the Tramway Museum Society volunteer to crew the trams, and conductors issue tickets from wooden ticket racks.

A new exhibition called Tracks in Time has just opened at the museum. It cost £150,000 to set up and charts the rise, fall and rise again of the tram.

For more details contact: the National Tramway Museum, Crich, Derbyshire DE45DP. Tel: 0773 852565.



We've got a chocolatey treat to give away to ten lucky readers. If you'd like a bottle of Saucery, just send your name and address on a postcard to: Cosmetics to Go/ Guiding Offer, 29 High Street, Poole, Dorset BH15 1AB. ting thinner? How does this affect us? How are we tackling the problem? And what do CFCs do? You can find out the answers to these and many more questions at a new exhibition at the Science Museum, but hurry as it only



## Network

## TREE TIME

▼Community Forests exist to transform derelict and featureless land around Britain's towns and cities — there are 12 at the moment.

The forests are looked after by full-time project teams. But much of the work is carried out by volunteers from schools and youth groups including Guides and Scouts.

Now the Woodland Trust is launching the Barclays Community Forest Award Scheme to reward the best practical contributions in each forest. If you are helping to establish one of the forests, or have a bright idea which is still at the planning stage, you could win £400 for the project.

Ideas for the type of project which could win a Barclays award include tree planting in school grounds; a green pantomime to raise money for Wildlife, at a ceremony in London on March 3.

Entry forms are available from: Barclays Community Forest Awards, c/o Featherstone Audax, 17a Barker Gate, Lace Market, Nottingham NG1 1JU. The closing date for entries is February 8.

## BIRD LIFE

Since 1984, 76,000 miles of Britain's hedgerow have been damaged and destroyed. That's enough to go around the world three times!

More than half our grazing marshes have been lost since the Second World War and 50 per cent of our barn owls have gone since the 1930s, according to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Birds.

To counter these losses, the RSPB has launched the Campaign for the Countryside because Britain's country Queen's head on them), commemorative and foreign. Then send them to: RSPB Stamp Appeal, The Lodge, Sandy Bedfordshire SG19 2DL.

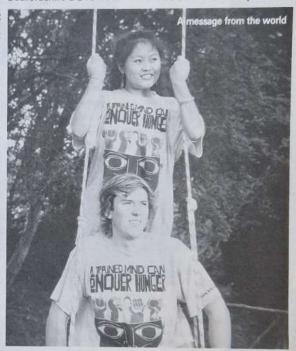
The RSPB has an active junior section called The Young Ornithologists' Club. For further details write to: New Member's Department (YOC), RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL.

range of sizes — medium, large and extra large.

Send your order to: Caroline Elphick, Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust, Sedlescombe, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 ORR. Tel: (0424) 870444.

## WATER WATCH

 National RiverWATCH is a three year survey of the UK's rivers and streams by WATCH,



## VILLAGE PEOPLE

▲These unique T-shirts are on sale in aid of the Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust — a charity providing education for gifted children from poor countries.

The Trust provides bright children from the poorest parts of the world with a good education so that they can, in turn, work to improve life in their own communities.

The Pestalozzi Children's Village in Sussex is 'home' to more than 110 children and young people from poor rural areas of the world.

The children usually arrive when they are about ten and attend local schools and colleges. They are given extra tuition by the Pestalozzi staff.

They return to their homelands about nine years later, armed with knowledge to help their communities.

The T-shirts cost £7.50 each, including postage and packing, and are available in a

the junior environment club. Young people all over Britain are already monitoring water and wildlife in their local rivers and streams.

The scheme operates through a series of three River-WATCH packs which contain everything you need to study your local river. You fill in a recording form and return it to RiverWATCH, who will collate information from all over Britain.

It's ideal for anyone doing their Conservation badge, and a great way for girls to learn more about the environment.

The packs usually cost £5 each, but RiverWATCH is offering them to members of the GGA at £4 each or £11 for each set of three.

Write with the name of your unit to: National River-WATCH, c/o Richmond Publishing Co Ltd, PO Box 963, Slough SL2 3RS. For more information on the survey ring 0992 501879.



the community forests; cleanup operations to improve the environment for children, adults and wildlife...

The winners will receive their awards from Chris Baines of the BBC TV programme

areas provide homes for some of our best-known birds.

You can help the campaign by collecting used postage stamps. Just sort them out into these three categories: definitive (which just have the



All prices include VAT

elcome to our 1993 Range of Tents and Marquees! Bradford Cover & Tent have built a reputation on a high level of quality and durability, enjoyed by adventurous youth groups all over the world.

Massive sales generated by high standards of workmanship have helped us to keep prices keen and that's why we have retained our position as market leaders for many years!

Now as a very special offer for 1993, we are once again giving you the opportunity to save £60.00 off 12' x 8' Ridge Tents, an offer which is strictly limited to 300 tents.



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& Tent
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This is our standard 12' x 8' Ridge Tent fabricated in superior 12oz 'A' Grade Cotton Duck (Green or White) and proofed to BS 3408. It's fitted with covered vents on each side and Dutch laced doors at both ends. Tapes are also fitted to enable walls to be rolled up. Each tent comes complete with steel or wooden poles, wood pags, guys, dollies and mallet and is packed into a strong canvas valise with a separate valise for poles.



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For further information please fax us on (0274) 392656 or telephone our helpline on

(0274) 728469/727112

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## MANS EYE VIEW

After some persuasion I had once again agreed to be MC at the District Swimming Gala. This year was different as Lady Handford-Stuart, the President, was donating a new trophy. It was to replace the old shield, which had no space left on which to engrave the name of the 27th Company, who had held it for most of the last 75 years.

I arrived to be introduced to the dignitaries who, in addition to the present Division and District Commissioners, also included a row of past Commissioners.

However, coming as I had from the sub-zero car park to the near tropical pool-side, my glasses were steamed up, rendering me incapable of taking in any of the grey-haired blurs to whom I was introduced.

By the time I had shaken hands with two lifeguards and a passing parent,

Rosemary's District Commissioner tactfully steered me in the direction of the microphone.

My problems really started when the first race results were handed over. I hadn't thought it a wise idea to have a doctor as recorder and, try as I might to decipher her handwriting, I'm still convinced the Brownie two-widths race was won by a chemical compound to be taken twice daily for beri-beri.

Then came Natalia Bienkowlowska, who I'd had problems with the previous year. I'd secretly hoped she would have got bored with the 14th and left. No such luck. Not only was she back but her swimming had improved to the extent that she seemed to be involved in almost every race.

As I somehow struggled through her name, to the amusement of most of the spectators and the growing annoyance of her proud parents. I wondered if Eastern European culture allows child brides. Perhaps I could introduce Natalia to someone called Smith before next year's gala.

As the evening rolled on, it became clear that the 27th were being challenged quite seriously by Rosemary's Company for the new trophy. When the final event — the relay — arrived, a look of disappointment appeared on Rosemary's face.

The final leg for the 27th was to be swum by Geraldine Thompson, the District Commissioner's daughter and a prospective Southern England

swimming champion.

Geraldine stood there, obviously just waiting to set a new European record for the 50 metres, her finely-tuned body making even Sharon Davies look under-developed.

By contrast, the 12th were relying on Jenny King, a quiet girl without any natural sporting talent. The sort of girl whose role in life seems destined to be that of 'also-ran'.

The worst was expected when the 27th handed Geraldine a ten-metre lead and she entered the water like a torpedo. What happened next was the sort of stuff that should be featured in Boys Own comic let alone GUIDING magazine.

Jenny hit the water with the grace of a brick and began thrashing her way down the pool. The 12th stood and stared as Jenny suddenly transformed herself from the gangly no-hoper into the heroine of the night.

With the spectators realising something special was happening and cheering her on, she caught Geraldine with 15 metres to go. Then, almost in slow motion, Jenny overtook the hot favourite to win by less than a foot. The baths erupted.

It was at this point that the District Commissioner icily pointed out to me that I had forgotten to switch off my microphone during this thrilling finale, and that what we had just witnessed bore no resemblance to Geoff Hurst's third goal in 1966.



## BUBBLING OVER

There was a surprise waiting for 1st Maryculter Pack when they pulled up at Scotland's Auchingarrich Wildlife Centre for a day trip.

Staff at the Centre, poised to congratulate their 10,000th visitor with a bottle of champagne, were greeted with the Pack from Aberdeen arriving in their Brownie bus!

Of course, none of the 25 Brownies were old enough to drink champagne, so Barn Owl Violet Grant rose to the occasion and accepted the bubbly on their behalf. She plans to share it with all the adults who helped with the trip.

'It was a great surprise — we just weren't expecting it.' Violet said. We had a really lovely day. A tour guide took us round. Then he showed the Brownies some chicks and let them handle them — and they were thrilled. It was the highlight of their day!

The Centre is a great place to take a group of Brownies or Guides. I would recommend it to any group.

Auchingarrich Wildlife Centre is set in 100 acres of beautiful hills, just south of Comrie in Perthshire. It houses one of the largest bird collections in Scotland with 17 ponds and more than 100 species of waterfowl, ornamental and game birds.

For more details tel: 0764 79469/

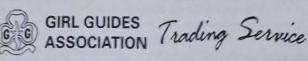
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be pleased to
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network of depots and agencies stocking the same popular range. Find out your local Agent by calling our information hotline 061 941 2237 and ask for our Sales Department.



When you buy from the Movement, we all benefit.

## Notices

## **AFRICA LIVE**

Guides from The Gambia will be describing their community projects during the Thinking Day celebrations at the Commonwealth Institute. And there'll be live music and an exciting West African dance group.

There will be two sessions on Saturday, February 20 at 1 pm and 3pm (visitors are advised to arrive 30 minutes earlier).

Admission will be £2 (plus 35p VAT) per person per session. For further details ring the Institute, Kensington High Street on 071-603 4535 ext 283.

## THINKING DAY

Thinking Day Services will be held on Saturday, February 20 in Westminster Abbey, St Margaret's Church and Westminster Central Hall.

The service in Central Hall will start 15 minutes earlier than in the other two venues. The congregation should be seated by 10.30am in Central Hall and 10.45am in Westminster Abbey and St Margaret's Church. Please check tickets for service times.

The hymns chosen for the service this year are All creatures of our God and King (in Hymns Ancient and Modern). Oh Lord, all the World belongs to you (in Songs of God's People). Thank You; The World Song; and One Day (in Swing Along Songs).

## CONCERT

A National Scout and Guide Concert Band course will be held from July 24-30, 1993 in Cleobury Mortimer near Kidderminster. Applications are invited from members of the Girl Guides and Scout Associations who are active in Scout and Guide bands, brass bands or orchestras and who will be under 25 on 24 July.

The course will cost approximately £175 and application forms must be in by February 28, 1993.

Full details and application forms are available from the Activities Section (National Scout and Guide Concert

## GIROBANK OFFERS FREE BANKING

As a result of the many letters and telephone calls the Association has received following the introduction of bank charges for unit accounts by most of the major banks, the Association has been in communication with Girobank, a subsidiary of the Alliance & Leicester Building Society.

As the Honorary Treasurer announced at the AGM, Guide units may benefit from free banking if they open a Club and Society Account with Girobank.

Club Product Manager Dave Clarke explains: 'Ours is one of the few Club Accounts that is still free while you are in credit. They are just a simple current account but they do have the option of a seven-day notice deposit account, or a high interest account.'

Benefits of the Club and Society Account include:

- Free banking while in credit.
- Cash can be deposited at nearly 20,000 post offices nationwide, which are open long hours during the week and on Saturday mornings.
- Cash withdrawals up to £50 every other business day.
- Cheques credited directly by use of prepaid, pre-addressed envelopes.
- Regular statements.
- Free Banking Pack, which includes cheque book, transfer/ deposit book, Girobank card, postage-paid envelopes, statement folder containing Treasurer's Summary Sheets, Subscription Records and so on.

Band), The Scout Association, Gilwell Park, Chingford, London E4 7QW.

## CHARITIES ACT

From January 1, 1993 all charities whose income exceeded £5,000 in the previous accounting year must state in English and 'legible characters' the fact that it is a registered charity on certain documents.

These new regulations apply to Guide units and areas whose overall income exceeded the £5,000 limit in the past year. They will affect all Countries and Regions in England and Wales, most Counties, some Divisions and Districts and, possibly, some units as well

For simplicity, arrangements should be made for the words a registered charity to be printed (which can be done with a rubber stamp) on all the following documents:

- Letter headings
- Compliments slips
- Printed invoices and receipts, for example for bookings of camp sites
- Cheques
- Any other documents issued by the unit or area

concerned, in connection with fund raising, or orders for money or goods.

Any enquiries about this can be made to the Legal Consultant at CHQ.

## TICKETS PLEASE

How would you like to be in the audience for one of BBC TV's top programmes — That's Life?

Tickets are available to see the show being recorded from 7.15 to about 9pm on any Friday between January 8 and July 2 at the BBC Television Centre (opposite White City tube station), Wood Lane, London W12.

Admission is by ticket only and the tickets are free to any family or group who are all aged over 14.

For tickets contact Production Secretary, Kerry Arnell, on 081-752 5911. Wheelchair users should notify the office at least 24 hours before the recording they are attending.

## PROBLEM PAGE

Readers have often asked for a problem page in *GUID-ING*. As we are always ready to respond to requests, we hope to run a trial article later this year.

Anyone who has a problem they'd like answering in this article should write to Problem Page. GUIDING, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W OPT to arrive not later than February 1.

## THIRTY YEARS SERVICE BAR AND CERTIFICATE

In view of the confusion which seems to have arisen over the phrase 'not given in retrospect', the Chief Commissioner has authorised me to issue the following guideline:

Any Guider or Commissioner who held a warrant or appointment card on September 1, 1992, and had already completed 30 or more years of reckonable service at that date, is eligible to receive a Thirty Years Service Bar and Certificate.

Anyone who completed 30 or more years service before September 1, 1992 but did not hold a warrant or appointment card at that date is not eligible for a Thirty Years Service Bar and Certificate, unless or until she holds a warrant or appointment card again.

MARJORIE HAYTER
General Secretary

## **GARDEN PARTY**

A date for your diary: The Friends of Glenbrook invite everyone to attend a 'Party in the Garden' to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of the Training Centre on Saturday, July 17, 2 until 5pm.

## CONFERENCE DATES

The Catholic Guide Advisory
Council is holding two conferences/gatherings in
1993. The first takes place
from April 16 to 18 at
Courtfield. Goodrich. Rosson-Wye and the second at
Minsteracres Retreat Centre.
Consett. Co Durham from
October 8 to 10.

All Guiders are welcome, especially those working with Catholics in 'sponsored' or 'open' units.

There will be a session on the Ki-Ro Scheme during ▶ 21

each weekend Further details | can be obtained from Miss M A Johnstone, 29 Kingsbridge Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 6DY, tel 0635-45306

## BUNGY JUMPING

At the meeting of the Programme and Training Committee on October 18. 1992, it was agreed that bungy jumping is not a recognised activity for members of the GGA.

## SHORT TERM INVESTMENT SERVICE

The monthly interest rate after deduction of management commission.

Aug, 1992 . . . 8.735 per cent Sept, 1992 . . . 8.413 per cent Oct, 1992 . . . 7.969 per cent An additional 0.5 per cent per annum is payable for deposits of £5,000 and above:

## TRUST FUND

On October 31, 1992 the value of a share in the Scout and Guide Trust Fund was. for selling purposes . . . 261.98 for buying purposes . . 275.20 income yield . . . 3.92 per cent The income yield is based on the previous two dividends paid and the price on the date stated.

## STAMP EXHIBITION

The Scout and Guide Stamps Club will be holding its annual exhibition at Baden-Powell House, Queen's Gate. South Kensington, London SW7 5JS on Saturday February 20, 1993 from 11am to 5pm.

The exhibition will be held in the library which is on the second floor of Baden-Powell House A wide range of Scout/Guide stamps, covers, postcards and other philatelic material will be available Entry is free.

## TOP AWARD

The company who printed the highly-acclaimed Guide Handbook BPMG Ltd (the Bath Press Manufacturing Group) has won the UK's top printing industry award.

BPMG defeated the USA's largest printer - R R Donnelly - to become Printing Company of the Year, 1992

## DOROTHY WILKINSON

The death occurred on October 10, 1992 of Mrs Dorothy Wilkinson, MBE. In addition to a variety of appointments in the UK from the early 1920s to her death. she was Colony Commissioner for the Gold Coast (now Ghana) from 1945-51, when she was awarded the Beaver.

She was Commissioner for Training for Ghana from 1954-62, and was awarded the MBE in 1960 for Guiding and education work in Ghana.

During her time in Ghana she worked with WAGGGS from 1957-59 to re-start Guiding in Liberia. She was Vice-President for Kent Weald from 1980 until her death.

## THE ASSOCIATION'S AWARDS

**GOOD SERVICE** 

Miss Jean Francis-Laurel -County Programme and Training Chairman, Somerset, Region Programme and Training Adviser, South West England.

## **OPEN** HOUSE



Ty Clwyd, Clwyd Girl Guides Centre, has been officially opened by Mrs Jane Garside, the Chief Commissioner.

It took the County seven years to raise over £120,000 to buy the land and build the centre.

The centre has an idyllic setting, surrounded by hills on the outskirts of Llanfairtalhairn, near Abergele.

Pack Holidays, training sessions. meetings and social events can be held in the house and there are over 11 acres available for camps and outdoor activities.

Clwyd County Commissioner, Mrs. Ann Jones, welcomed the Chief Commissioner. Mrs Ruth Griffith, Chief Commissioner Guides Cymru, civic dignatories and past and present members were also present

The Archbishop of Wales, the Most Rev. Alwyn Rice Jones, blessed the new colours, building and camp sites.

Entertainment was provided by Rhyl Scout and Guide Band and Mrs June Churchman, President of Clwyd Guides. gave the vote of thanks

All aboard. The Chief Commissioner takes the wheel for a tour of Ty Clwyd. Looking on are (left) Ruth Griffith, Chief Commissioner Guides Cymru and Ann Jones, Clwyd Commissioner.

## I HAVE A DREAM

Making dreams come true is what the Olave Baden-Powell Bursary Fund is all about. Set up in 1979, the Fund provides grants - of up to £100 - to help Guides, Rangers and Young Leaders turn their dreams into reality. The grants, which are allocated in May each year, are intended to top-up whatever a girl has already raised. Here are a few of the 85 success stories from last year.

Bagpipes might not be everyone's favourite musical instrument, but for Laura Feldman giving her first public performance on her own bagpipes was truly a dream come true.

Laura, of the 1st Wormit Guides, Fife, had been saving for the bagpipes but it was the bursary which made the purchase possible.

Since then Laura has given two more performances with her school band and played at her grandparents' ruby wedding anniversary.

Last summer Young Leader Jane Hopper spent a month working in a Mother Theresa Home in Bombay caring for homeless orphans. Many of the children were dying and Jane, who is Young Leader with the 1st Tempo Guides, Co Fermanagh, spent time teaching them to speak, as well as washing and feeding them.

Without the bursary it would have been impossible for me to go to India and give love and care to the dying and destitute,' she said.

The barren, hostile landscape of Iceland was the setting for Ranger Joanne Maitland's adventure of a lifetime. Joanne, of the 3rd Whitstable Unit, Kent, spent six weeks camping in arctic conditions as part of a British Schools Exploring trip.

As well as learning how to survive in arctic conditions, the team carried out a study of glacial streams.

Blizzards kept everyone in their tents for the last few days of the expedition. As food manager, Joanne had to brave the storm to get food supplies to each tent. 'It was frightening,' she admitted. I felt as though I was about to be swept away in one huge gust.

A life on the ocean wave was Caroline Parry's dream. With the help of a bursary, Caroline, a Ranger with 1st Madeley Unit, Shropshire, set sail from Boston, America to cross the Atlantic in the 1992 Tall Ships Race.

Caroline's ship finished first in her

class and was the first UK ship past the post, in spite of severe storms and three sails being damaged

In her log Caroline recorded the moment when she first sighted land:

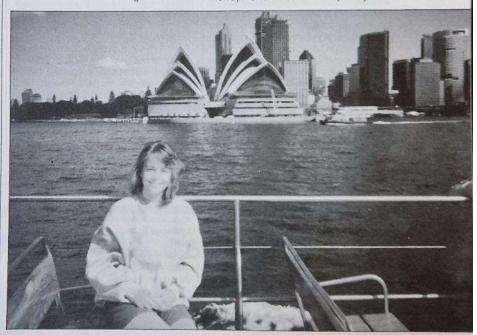
Australia during the 1992 National Youth Choir of Great Britain's world tour was a 'never to be forgotten' experience. The choir fitted in sightseeing in Honolulu, Hawaii, California and New Zealand between performances, even recording a CD in Brisbane.

Tve learned a lot through singing in all the different venues and value the experience greatly, said Charlotte, who is a Ranger with Nailsea Rangers,

Whether it's bagpipes or boots, sailing the Atlantic or nursing the sick. if a girl in your unit is working towards a genuine ambition tell her about the Olave Baden-Powell Bursary Fund

The scheme is open to Guides, Rangers and Young Leaders up to the age of 18. It is not means-tested and the project need not be Guide-related.

The applicant will need to explain the project, how much it will cost and what she is already doing to raise money. She must convey why the



'August 6: LAND! What else can I say?... Not only that but the sunrise I had been waiting for appeared, with dolphins as an added bonus.

After a Thinking Day on the Air event sisters Natasha and Suzanne Weir were hooked on amateur radio. The pair, both with 1st Kennington Guides. Oxford, took the City and Guilds Novice Radio examination to gain a licence but didn't have access to equipment.

To buy their own they organised a stall at the village hall, helped with shopping and saved their pocket money. A bursary topped up their efforts and they now have their radio.

For bursary winner Charlotte Mobbs celebrating her birthday in Sydney. project interests her and convince the Charlotte Mobbs Committee that this is a long-standing outside Sydney

She will also need to include a letter of recommendation (from a non-Guide person) supporting her application and giving background information about her life outside Guiding

Of course, not everyone who applies will be successful but it's worth a try.

For an application form please send a sae (no smaller than 22cm by 11cm) to: The Secretary of the Olave Baden-Powell Fund, the Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W OPT. Applications must be in by April 30.

Opera House

## COMPETITION

Did any girls in your unit enter the 1991/1992 Royal Commonwealth Society Essay Competition? It's an annual event, regularly supported by members of the GGA. If not, have a go this year — perhaps one of your girls will scoop a top prize.

### RULES

1 Entries must be sent to Guiding Activities Division Youth Activities Section at CHQ, accompanied by the coupon, which must be signed by a Guider, to arrive no later than Monday, February 1, 1993.

2 On the front page of the entry please give name, date of birth, unit title, home address, age group, essay class, length of essay.

3 Essays should be handwritten, with a wide margin on the left-hand side of each page. (A disabled girl may type her essay, but an explanatory letter must be enclosed.)

4 A list of books read for information must be given together with details of any other sources of information used.

5 The essay may be supported by diagrams, maps or illustrations, but remember that it is an essay competition and the judges will concentrate on the written material.

## 6 NO ENTRANT MAY SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE ESSAY.

A small prize will be awarded by Commonwealth Headquarters for the best essays submitted in each class. Up to six essays in each class will then be sent to the panel of judges appointed by the Royal Commonwealth Society.

For an essay to be accepted, the date of birth must be included in the entry particulars and the entrant must have been born.

for Class A, in 1974, 1975 or 1976 for Class B, in 1977 or 1978 for Class C, in 1979 or 1980 for Class D, not earlier than 1981.

## ENTRY FORM

DATE OF BIRTH		
ADDRESS		
	70 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 -	

I certify that the enclosed entry is the unaided work of the above named member of the GGA.

Signed (Guider)

Age will be calculated at December 31, 1992 Entrants who are above the age for the class entered will be disqualified.

### TOPICS

### CLASS A - Approximately 1500-2000 words. Age 16-18

1 What are the lessons to be learned from the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June, 1992

2 Do we need to move towards a new definition of democracy as being about consensus?

3 Life without music would be a mistake wrote one competitor in the 1991-92 Commonwealth Essay Competition. Discuss ways in which music influences our lives.

4 Is there still scope in the contemporary world for a spirit of adventure?

**5** Write a fictional account or story with a journey as the framework and recognition as the main theme.

### CLASS B — Approximately 1200-1500 words. Age 14-15

1 There is no question but that the exploitation of forests should be so regulated that they survive as one of the world's most important renewable assets. What are the obstacles to be overcome in achieving this goal?

2 Of all the many forms of artistic expression, which of them means most to the people of your country. How has it developed and why is it so special?

3 How can wealthy countries best help

developing nations to establish viable and socially-balanced economies?

4 Neither a borrower nor a lender be, said Polonius in Shakespeare's Hamlet Is this sensible advice?

## CLASS C — Approximately 500-750 words. Age 12-13

## Illustrations will be welcome.

1 Many trees and plants are threatened by the destruction of their habitats. Which of those in your country are specially important to preserve and what needs to be done?

2 Make up an imaginary conversation with one or two very old people which brings out what has changed since they were children and what has stayed very much the same.

3 Write a letter to friends or relatives who have been away for six months, bringing them up to date with local and family news

4 Write a story about an animal which gets lost.

## CLASS D — Not more than about 600 words. Age under 12

### Illustrations will be welcome.

1 Describe a day when the older members of the family are called away in an emergency, leaving you to look after your five younger brothers and sisters. Tell us about the difficulties and how well you managed to cope with them.

2 Imagine that you wake up one morning and find that you can talk with one of the animals in your life. How would the conversation go?

3 Imagine a day when it was your birthday and you were allowed to choose exactly what you would do all day. What did you choose and did it turn out as well as you had hoped?

4 Suppose you met a magician who was determined to turn you into a bird. What kind of bird would you choose to be? Where would you go and what would you do?

5 Write a poem or a play called The most amazing day of my life.

Any entries received after February 1 will not be accepted.

## PRIZES

## CLASS A

1st International air travel and study tour for two in Britain — or in another country if the winner is British.

**2nd** £100 cash and £30 books (Margaret Best Endowment).

3rd £75 cash and £25 books

4th £50 cash and £20 books

## CLASS B

1st £250 cash and £50 books.

2nd f80 cash and f25 books (Margaret Best Endowment).

3rd £60 cash and £20 books.

4th £40 cash and £15 books.

Special Prizes: In each class there is a special prize available for a disabled entrant (Sir Alwyn Ezra Endowment).

## CLASS C

1st £80 cash and £20 books (Kenneth Whitty Memorial).

2nd £60 cash and £15 books (Kenneth Whitty Memorial).

3rd £45 cash and £10 books

4th £30 cash and £10 books

## CLASS D

1st £60 cash and £20 books (Frederick Rapsey Endowment).

2nd £40 cash and £15 books (The Cumbria prize)

3rd £30 cash and £10 books. 4th £20 cash and £10 books.

Note: The values of the book prizes are of necessity approximate.

## **FUNDS FOR AFRICA**

Help Africa, this year's Christmas Good Turn Appeal, aims to support Guidingrun community projects in four African countries. There's still time for you to contribute to the appeal, but hurry — it closes on January 31.

Zimbabwe's Association needs help to continue work on the Monte Cassino Mission Pre-school Project in the Macheke resettlement area, east of Harare.

Rangers and Guides in this area have already helped with child care and literacy programmes and raised money to provide basic necessities for poorer pupils. Now they aim to establish a permanent building as a crêche for pre-school children.

Secondary schooling is not compulsory in either Sierra Leone or Tanzania, and neither country has any state-funded job training. Local Guide Association-run projects may be a girl's only chance of acquiring skills which will help her get a job.

In Sierra Leone your donations will be used to provide typewriters for two community projects run by the flourishing Girl Guides Association.

Since the first project, based in Lunley, started in 1990, ten students have learned to type and got jobs. Now the class has grown and more type-writers are needed.

Many of the students on the second project, based in an area known as George Brook in a poor suburb of Freetown, are petty traders who had



Learning to type in Lunley, Sierre Leone

no opportunity to go to school. Several who were previously illiterate can now read and write a little.

Women in Tanzania, in common with some other developing countries, have fewer vocational training opportunities than men. In Dar es Salaam, the Tanzanian Girl Guides Association runs classes in sewing, vegetable growing, poultry-rearing, and handicrafts. Donations to the Christmas Appeal will help to buy sewing machines for these classes

A recent fire severely damaged the Lesotho Girl Guides Association headquarters. Equipment, including paper, is urgently needed.

The Association runs a programme designed to help girls become useful citizens, particularly vital in a country where 72 per cent of households are headed by women because the men migrate in search of work.

Any donations should be sent to the GGFF c/o Rosemary Mills, General Secretary's Department, Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1 OPT. Cheques should be made payable to GGA (GGFF).

## INTERNATIONAL CAMPS

The chance to share life under canvas with thousands of other Guides and Scouts is on offer this year and next.

This summer 17,000 European Guides and Scouts will attend Eidskog 1993 at Inglesrud, Norway.

The camp is being organised by Norges Speiderforbund and the site is 100km east of the Norwegian capital, Oslo. Taking as its theme 'Simplicity, original, friendship and nature', the activities will make minimum use of

modern technology.

The camp will run from July 31 to August 8 and costs 1150 Norwegian Krona

Interested? For further information and an application form send your name, address, phone number and group title with a sae to the International Secretary, Youth Activities Section, Girl Guides Assocation, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W OPT. But hurry, the letter must reach us by January 29.

The environment is the theme for

the 1994 international event. The Netherlands will be the setting for Jamboree in Europe 1994, when 10,000 Guides and Scouts are expected to gather at Dronten.

Organised by Scouting Netherland, the camp will run from August 1 to 11 and cost 575 Helvetian florins. Activities on offer include sailing, surfing, canoeing, rafting, swimming and waterbiking.

Anyone interested should apply to the address above, giving the details listed and enclosing a sae. Closing date is February 26 and late applications cannot be accepted for either camp.

There should be no more than 20 in each group, including leaders and those attending must be 12 or over. Home hospitality may not be available.

Each group must make its own bookings keeping to the guidelines for taking parties overseas set out in the Guiding Manual.

There will be no grants available from either CHQ or Countries and Regions towards the cost.

## ALONE IN GUIDING

Finding an expedition group can be a problem for the girl working on her Duke of Edinburgh's Award alone. Maureen Smelt, the Association's D of E Award Co-ordinator has some suggestions.

It is, believe it or not, possible to be alone in Guiding. Particularly if you are between 14 and 25. Young women in this age group may attend Guide, Ranger, Young Leader or District meetings on a regular basis. But they are more often than not working on something that appeals to them and no one else within their group, for example the Duke of Edinburgh's Award or Queen's Guide.

It is easy to do the skill requirement alone for no one is needed to hold knitting needles while one knits or help with changing the plugs on the car while doing car maintenance. And there are always numerous evening classes that can be attended.

Candidates can get on with their service projects alone. Sometimes it is the service project that has brought a young woman into Guiding, for instance to do the Young Leaders Certificate or become a Guider while following the Adult Leader Scheme. Guides may be doing their Guide service work with a Rainbow Unit or Brownie Pack and working towards their B-P Trefoil at the same time as the Bronze Award.

Physical recreation can be achieved if you are on your own by joining a club or trying one of the many team sports.

But — where does a young woman turn to for her expedition? This is the one area where she has to be part of a group. Advisers are not always able to help. There may be two or three other girls in the County wanting to do their expedition, but it is not always possible to fix a convenient date or place. So



where else can a candidate look?

The D of E Award Journal may be able to help. Published three times a year the magazine has a classified section where Open Gold expeditions are advertised. These weeks are usually run by the D of E Expedition Panel in the area indicated, but other operating authorities also run the Open Gold Weeks.

For the past five years Exeter Scouts and Guides have run a very successful week on Dartmoor. This area is ideal for expedition, exploration and enterprise work.

In 1992, 32 young people completed their D of E expedition, either on foot or by cycle, as well as one Chief Scout's Challenge, six Queen's Scout Challenge and two Queen's Guide enterprise Quite a week

The 1993 Devon Scouts and Guides Expedition Week looks to be heading for success again. It is being advertised more widely within the Guide Movement. So, if you know anyone who is 'alone out there', suggest she joins us. It offers more than just an expedition.

There's the chance, as with other Guiding events, to meet new people and try new things out. A day is usually spent at an adventure centre to enable those taking part to get to know each other. It offers you a challenge to work with a new team.

This year's week is to be held from August 21-28. For more information write to David Hood, Greenbanks, Woodwater Lane, Exeter, or contact the D of E Award Co-ordinator at CHQ, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W OPT.

New venues are opening up all the time for expeditions. September saw the publication of *Euro-Venture Issue* 2, have you seen it? It is full of new ideas for groups. I am sure it will not be long before the GGA and other operating authorities are able to offer Open Ventures into Europe.

So as you can see there is no need for anyone to feel alone, wondering how to complete her Awards. We are here to help.

MAUREEN SMELT

D of E Award Co-ordinator



The Canaries, with assorted Patrol Leader help, held their Christmas craft evening and most of it went well. They remembered to bring most things, and even remembered to sort out a budget.

I remembered lots of polythene and newspaper to cover work surfaces. These were not actually on my list but I somehow knew that they definitely would not feature on anyone else's!

The only problem was that, although they all brought their craft to teach, they had not liaised on who was doing what. So we had a few duplicates! That was my fault for not checking and meant we were short of a couple of crafts. However, Assistant produced her emergency sewing kit and had groups sewing their Crime Prevention badges on their sashes. That was a good idea!

The evening was an experience for the Canaries and PLs — and the rest of us. It engendered some interest in the Craft badge and it didn't take Assistant and I more than half an hour to clear the debris, after everyone else had vanished.

Fortunately, it was one of the few nights when the caretaker had left the keys for us to lock up, so she was not hovering at finishing time as she usually does.

We will be starting the new term with a Young Leader and, as we've not had one for several years, we'll need to practise what to do with one.

## D.I.A.R.Y OF A GUIDE GUIDER

An extra pair of hands doesn't always make life easier. But the hope that a Young Leader may grow into a Guider — and I may be able to retire — is a great incentive to making our YL feel loved and needed.

She had her introduction to the Patrol Leaders at the start of December, when we rashly had a PLC which included making mincemeat.

The original idea was to make it for Christmas parcels, and to help the Canaries with the Homemaker badge for their B-P Trefoil. They don't get to use the kitchen at school, or at home apparently, although they've done technical drawing and woodwork. Being of the old-school, I remained unimpressed and unsure what technical drawing actually is.

It was Mandy and Tracy who decided that we ought to present mincemeat

gifts to our recent badge instructors and testers. But, on seeing the end product. I wondered whether that was a wise move. A sticky time was had by all and programme planning was completely ignored.

Perhaps we'll declare the new term to be one of catching up with Trefoil Badges because, even when the Challenges are listed, they don't do them.

We will also need to do some fund raising soon. Our weekly subscriptions and a few extra events thrown in keep the unit finances ticking over but, with two Guides selected for Region international camp next year, it would be nice to help them out with the fees.

We'll have to put our thinking caps on but I plan to veto (democratically, of course) suggestions for anything 'crafty', anything sponsored, and anything involving mincemeat.

## CMRCUS 93

Come to the CIRCUS at Blackland Farm, East Grinstead — a national camp with lots of exciting activities, for example, sports (fencing, trampolining); adventurous/campcraft activities (climbing, canoeing, backwoods cooking, pioneering); creative activities (dance, crafts); a barn dance, a wide camp and a camp fire.

There will also be plenty of time for exploring this big, beautiful site in Ashdown Forest, as well as the chance to make new friends, swap badges and relax in your own camp.

The camp is for Patrols of four to six Guides from any part of the United Kingdom, with or without Guiders. Guiders are, of course, very welcome.

CIRCUS will start Sunday, August 8 and end Friday, August 13, 1993. The fee is £36 for Guides, which includes



On top of the world at Blackland Farm

all activities, but not food or travel to and from camp.

Patrols should be self-equipped and self-catering.

If your Guides would like to come, fill in the application form below (complete one form per Patrol) and send it with £5 per Guide non-returnable deposit (cheque made payable to GGA Blackland Camp 1993) to: MRS PAULINE MEDLER, 15 ASH CLOSE, SWANLEY, KENT BR8 7ES, together with two large first class, stamped addressed envelopes (minimum size 12 ins x 9 ins) per Patrol.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 31, 1993.

Applications will be dealt with on a first-come, first-served basis.

Full details will be sent to all applicants. If you have not received acknowledgement of your application by April 14, 1993 contact Mrs Medler. Telephone 0322 662974 between 6pm and 10pm Monday to Friday only.



## PATROL APPLICATION FORM FOR CIRCUS 1993

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS EXCEPT FOR SIGNATURES

NAME OF UNIT

PATROL NAME

NUMBER IN PATROL

(Minimum 4 maximum 6)

DIVISION

**GUIDE COUNTY** 

NAME AND ADDRESS TO RECEIVE INFORMATION FOR THIS PATROL

**UNIT GUIDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS** 

IS THE UNIT GUIDER ATTENDING THE CAMP WITH THIS PATROL? YES/NO (Delete as necessary)

NAME AND ADDRESS OF ANY OTHER GUIDER FROM THIS UNIT ATTENDING THE CAMP

UNIT GUIDER'S SIGNATURE

NON-RETURNABLE DEPOSIT @ £5 PER GUIDE ENCLOSED

(Cheque made payable to 'GGA Blackland Camp 1993')

£

**DIVISION CA'S SIGNATURE** 

MATCH THIS SPACE

## What happened - did I blink and miss it? Where were the great changes, the miraculous sweeping away of borders and the single market that was to appear, as if by magic, with the coming of 1992? For years we had all known that 1992 was to be the year of watershed for the European Community - increasing integration between member states and, maybe, even resulting in a single European unit. Yet, for most people, the only thing that seemed to change was that the Exchange Rate Mechanism and Maastricht became dirty words.

What went wrong? Basically, fear was at the root of the trouble. Fear of 'fortress Europe' blocking out the outside world; fear of 'Euro-nuts' telling us that Chelsea buns could only be made in Chelsea, and fear of delivering our sovereignty into the hands of Brussels, hundreds of miles away.

In swapping their dark blue, highlyregarded British passport for a small, insignificant purple one, many Brits felt they were losing their identity. As if being European left no room for one to be British.

This, of course, is not the case, as Edward Heath pointed out in a speech to the Malvern Conference in 1991. Then he said: 'We've been the United Kingdom for more than 250 years. Are you telling me that you can't recognise a Scotsman when you go into a pub, or a Welshman outside?'

On the other hand, the United Kingdom is no longer top dog and we must recognise and accept this, pulling together with the rest of Europe for the good of our country and that of the rest of the community. It is only through collective agreement that we can solve the immense problems which face us. The environment, the economy and human rights to name just three.

So what does Guiding have to bring to this state of affairs? The youth of Europe are the way forward. Perhaps older generations cannot be blamed for labelling all Germans 'Nazis' and all Russians 'Commies'.

Our Europe is not one of the Second World War or even the Cold War. Superficially, it is one of the Eurovision song contest, Inter-rail and the Eurocard! On a deeper level it is post-Cold War Europe in which the Iron Curtain has been torn down.

Our vision is one of extending links to others who, increasingly, we see as people rather than as nationalities.

## 1992 AND ALL THAT



This fits in well with the Guiding ethos — a Movement cutting across international boundaries.

The Girl Guides Association already has the links and structure at its core which are essential to this approach which holds that all countries are equal.

We already look worldwide towards other cultures and, particularly with Europe featuring as prominently in the national thinking, a big push from the Association could set our girls, and others, thinking hard about Europe, the Community and our role in it.

Thinking Day comes but once a year (to pervert the old rhyme!) but, during the intervening 364 days, we should not put the world back on the shelf and sit back in our own cosy little

corners of the United Kingdom, thinking only of village affairs.

The British public may know very little about Europe, Maastricht and the rest — our members should know better. As understanding increases, fear decreases. We owe it to the girls to keep them informed — it is, after all, more and more the direction in which the destiny of this country lies.

By forging links between WAGGS members in all 12 Community countries, we will understand each other more effectively. That, surely, will be a good thing!

## KATHRYN HURLEY OCIL MARTIN

Welsh Representatives to the Junior Council

## FISHY BUSINESS

Picture it. The boss was carping all day, the car wouldn't start and you've just got back from a fraught District Meeting. What you need is help to soothe away all that tension.

One remedy is to follow the example set by many doctors and dentists who realised long ago that installing a tank of tropical fish in the surgery helps nervous patients relax.

Now you can win your very own antidote to stress by entering our aquatic wordsearch. *GUIDING* has got together with Tetra, one of Britain's

leading suppliers of fish food and fish care products, to start you off on a fascinating — as well as therapeutic — hobby

The lucky winner will be presented with an aquarium and fish to the value of £250.

Arrangements will be made for the winner to visit the Tetra-selected aquarium centre nearest her home to choose the tank, fish and accessories.

And she'll get tips on looking after an aquarium from Dr David Pool, a leading authority on fish-care.

The winner will be joining a growing band of enthusiasts who have made fish the world's most popular pets.

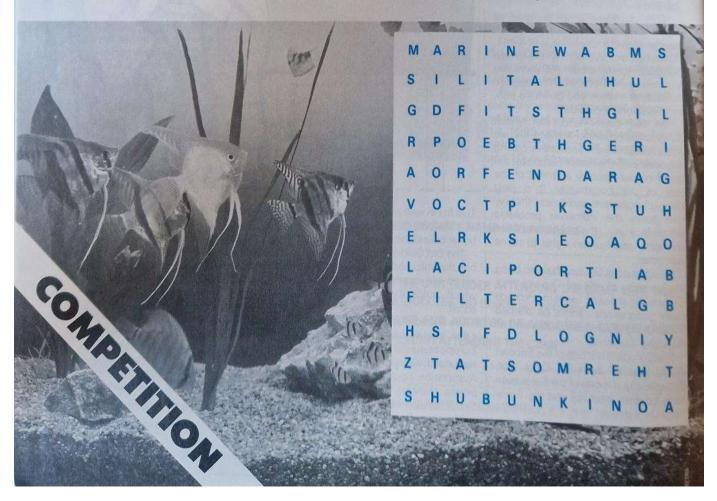
But anyone who has questions about any aspect of fish-keeping is invited to call the Tetra Information Service on 0703 643339 for useful fact sheets or leaflets.

To enter the contest you need to find as many words relating to fish-keeping in the wordsearch below as possible and send your entries to Tetra Wordsearch, *GUIDING*, The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W OPT by Monday, February 1. The winner will be the first all-correct entry out of the draw.

## RULES

- 1 The Editor's decision is final.
- No correspondence or communication will be entered into.
- **3** All entries must be received by February 1, 1993. The winner will be the first correct entry drawn on that date.
- 4 No cash or other alternatives to the prize offered will be available.
- 5 Entrance to the competition denotes acceptance of the rules.
- **6** Employees of Tetra, their families and staff at CHQ are ineligible to enter.
- 7 Please do not enclose any other correspondence with your entry.

The winner will be notified by post and her name published later.



## THANKS A LOT!

Dear Aunt Maud:

Thank you for that gorgeous box of Continental chocolates...

You'd have thought she'd remember I'm on a diet and can't eat sweets!

Dear Uncle Harry:

The boys were thrilled with their cameras — you really spoil them. They must have got through a couple of films already...

Buying the films and paying for the developing is costing me a fortune and they should be using the time to write their own letters!

Dear Emma:

The sweater fits perfectly, how clever of you to get the size right.

Pity she didn't make a better job of choosing the colour, can she really see me in puce?

In the midst of those formal, often insincere seasonal

thank-yous for Christmas gifts and goodies, do we ever pause to think about all the good things that we receive? Not the tokens at Christmas but the gifts freely and lovingly given throughout the year from family, friends, neighbours and colleagues. The ever-present blessings of their kindness, concern, courtesy, cheerunderstanding. fulness. patience, readiness to listen and, above all, their time.

One of the happiest ways

of saying thank you to people for their on-going support — at whatever level — is to catch the habit.

To wave back when the neighbour waves (and sometimes wave first); to have time for the anxious friend who's always ready to listen to your troubles; to be as tolerant of a colleague's mistakes as she is of yours...

Any potential there for a New Year's resolution?

CD

## LET US PRAY

Guides and Brownies in Cambridgeshire have helped save wear and tear on the knees of worshippers at their local church.

The kind-hearted girls joined in making decorative kneelers after a plea for help.

The 1st and 2nd Warboys Brownie Packs and 1st Warboys Guides handsewed three kneelers for St Mary Magdalene Church, in Warboys.



Using money from Pack funds, the girls sent off for special kits and stitched away during meetings. Brownie Guider Lorraine Weights said: Every member of the Brownie Pack took part in making the kneelers, as well as five of the Guides.

'Now they are in use in the church all the time.'

More than 40 kneelers completed by parish members were dedicated in a special service.



## IN GUIDING FEBRUARY

Open Learning

the people's university

**Animal Lover** 

London's Zoo's only female head keeper



In the Driving Seat a day out at Brands Hatch Flower Power Broneirion's floral festival Bowled Over tackling those tenpins On Song

hitting the right notes



## IN GUIDE PATROL EERDIJADY

Perfect Paintwork

giving your bedroom a new look

Horses for Courses

easy-to-make hobby horse ideas

Head for the Hills

mountain biking for beginners



## Breathe Easy

the facts about asthma

## Whatever the Weather

tips for the Weatherman badge



## IN BROWNIE

Winter Wonders animal survival tactics

Sign Language know your signs

The Case of the Disappearing Words

making invisible inks

the story of Laura Ingalls



Fun Food spicy cookies to bake

## AND IN RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA

Rainbow Rabbit goes visiting Naming Names

making a name collage

Story Time

Lucky Escape
Snowflake Fun

make your own snowflake







Ruth Prince is the first Project Officer to be appointed through Reach Out, the Association's initiative to take Guiding into areas where a special need has been identified.

## PRINCELY PRO

Guiding can help young girls on | Merseyside to grow into confident women — at least that's what Guiding's first Reach Out Project Officer, Ruth Prince, believes. Strong women. Women very much like Ruth and her Mum, who can meet life face on and not

There's nothing retiring about 42year-old Ruth Six foot without her high heels. Ruth proudly announces she's 13 stone 2lbs - when you've been 27 stone, losing nearly 14 stone is something to shout about

Bootle born and bred. Ruth couldn't wall to get started on her mission to take Guiding to the outer fringes of I werpool she told GUIDING.

I know absolutely nothing about Guiding and I don't particularly want to, she said cheerfully.

I don't want to take over from those ladies who are working hard and 32 going out on freezing cold Manday nights to run units. But I would like to be there as their support - someone who could help.

Ruth's first task is to recruit leaders. To do so, she'll draw on all the skill and expertise she gained in the cosmetic industry and employment services

Along the way Ruth picked up a sheaf of paper qualifications but it's her blazing personality, common sense and ability to identify with the people she's trying to help that will count

Trying to explain why problems have developed because families have been split up and moved away from all that they knew and understood, Ruth gave an example from her own life She said Twas arrested when I was six vears old. We had moved from Marsh Lane, that was part of the Dock Road, to Netherton and I went out for a walk. I saw these gorgeous yellow flowers in a field and I started pulling them up. At

the other end was potatoes, and I thought I had found gold.

I remember walking home with my skirt full of potatoes and this police bobby stopped me on the way and said I had stolen them from a farmer's field. But there was no fence around the field and to me it was like "Eureka, I've arrived"

And that's exactly what has happened to people in areas like Netherley. People have been put in an environment that is totally alien to them and they don't know how to cope

Merseyside women have always been strong, she says. They are the engine, the hub of everything, everything revolves around them.' And it is these women she plans to attract into Guiding 1 want positive Pollys not negative Marys, she explained.

I want to have this great sieve of people coming in to me that I am not going to lose at the other end. The only

way I am going to be able to do that is if the training is down-to-earth and basic. I'll give them 100 per cent support. I am always going to be the friend on the other end of the phone who can help them.'

She realises that finding leaders is her biggest problem. I think I will be inundated with young girls . . . but it is leaders that I'm looking for.'

Ruth understands the pull of family ties. When she fell in love and married, she gave up her career as a blues singer and concentrated on bringing up her two sons for 11 years. The marriage failed but Ruth doesn't regret her decision.

She is extremely proud of her gentle giant. 22-year-old Raymond, a 6ft 8ins sergeant in the Irish Guards, and 19-year-old Keith, currently studying engineering at Aston University.

When they were little she took night classes and built up qualifications, determined never to be 'just a housewife'. Once she felt the boys were less dependent, she joined Oriflame UK selling beauty products at parties.

I was 27 stone at the time and I reckon I did so well because the ladies

hoping for lots of feedback.

When she spent a week in CHQ it was the first time she'd been apart from her partner, Michael, since they met. 'He's very, very supportive,' said Ruth. The minute we met, we knew we wanted to be together.'

She believes she came close to death two years ago. Then she weighed 27 stone and was very, very tired—literally falling asleep all the time.

For years she'd tried to slim. I'd done everything. You name it, I'd done it. I'd had my jaws wired tried every diet gone to all the weight reducing clubs. I'd done the lot and, every time, I failed at it.

Although Ruth was adamant that she didn't eat a lot, the pounds just kept creeping on. Finally she was referred to a specialist who came up with a diagnosis and a cure.

'He told me I had a disease that makes your body run very slowly ... I don't lose my temper very easily, I'm very placid. At the time I think I was almost dying.'

The solution offered was a drastic one — a gastroplastie, in which a valve would be stapled into Ruth's stomach

Ruth knows she has another battle on her hands surmounting the dowdy. middle-class image that still clings to the Association. She had a taste of what she's up against when she told her friends about her new job.

They laughed and said: "You are a feminine, sexy woman who wears black stockings and high heels. You are not going to fit in".

Yet the more I met the people within Guiding, I thought these are feminine, sexy women who know exactly where they are going. They know what they want to do, what they want to achieve and they know the potential that there is in Merseyside.

They had loads of ideas. What they needed was someone to listen to them and actually put their ideas into action. That's what I want to do, coupled with a couple of ideas of my own.

She was anxious to tell me of the high level of support she'd already received in the area. 'At first I'll have to pick brains and seek help from every single one of them,' she explained.

Although claiming to definitely not be a feminist, Ruth says she can be 'when it suits me'. And she will use her femininity if she needs to. 'I play to my audience,' she explained.

Her professional image will be jealously preserved. She said: 1 can't go in there as part of the pearls brigade or they are going to laugh at me. I'll go in as a woman who is there to promote women.'

As a girl Ruth was a Guide for three years at Longmore Lane Methodist Church, Bootle, before launching a singing career that took her all around the world. She still sings but, these days, it's mainly for charity.

There's no doubt about Ruth's commitment to the cause. At first she was just looking for a job that would 'put bread on the table'. But, as she learned what was involved, she became utterly determined that she and no one else should get the post. I put together a portfolio and sold myself just the way I would have done in sales and marketing,' she said.

Just hours after Ruth received the phone call saying she'd got the job her much loved mother died. Ruth is glad that her mother knew the job was hers.

'My mother was a very big influence in my life. She was a docker's wife and a very strong woman,' she explained. Clearly a strength which Ruth has inherited and that she means to pass on to the women of Merseyside.

## **NORA WARNER**

 When Ruth was interviewed two other Project Officers to work in London and Newcastle were about to be appointed.

## DSPECTS

at the demonstrations could relate to me, when they couldn't to the gorgeous girls on cosmetic counters,' she said.

Ruth spent 14 years with the company, honing her skills in public relations; recruitment; sales and marketing.

Then she switched to working in the employment services. She was involved first with the Government's employment training scheme, later known as adult training, selling the idea along with YTS to the people of Merseyside. Promoted, she found herself trying to convince employers of the value of proper training.

It was all linked to the "show how and explain why" theory — showing someone how to do it and explaining why you want them to do it in that way. That's how I see my job in recruitment within the Association, she said.

Ruth will be working from home — 42 Barkbeth Road, Huyton, Liverpool, tel. 051 449 3865 — and she's

drastically limiting the amount of food she can digest.

A frightening prospect? It was terrible, Ruth agreed. I went in to see him and he put his finger under my chin and said "I'll make you beautiful again". He gave me confidence straight away."

Ruth had the operation on November 29, 1990 and, for 12 months, could eat only clear soups. She's progressed to purees now.

At first the weight poured off at around two stone a month, but it has reduced to a trickle.

'It was the best thing that ever happened to me,' Ruth declared. 'You can have the staples out but I never would. I would never like to grow that big again.'

As for turning into a beauty, when Raymond came back from Germany on leave, he took one look at his mum and declared. 'My mother's turned into Marilyn Monroe!'

## THEME EVENING

## ON THE CARDS

At least this year you won't have to throw away all those smashing cards, we've got lots of uses for them.

## **OPENING**

Cut Christmas cards in half Hide the right-hand sides around the room. Give each girl a left-hand side. When she has found its matching half, she returns to collect another half.

### **Nature Topic**

Give Patrols a pile of cards which show natural objects, for example, trees, wild flowers, animals, birds and so on. Each girl has to take a card from the pile without showing it to the others, and then tells the Patrol one bit of information about what is shown on the card. The others then have to guess what it is. The pictures could,

the card. Fold it in half lengthways, then in half again.

Cut diagonal slits from the folded edge to about 1cm from the other edge (see figure 1). Make the slits about half a centimetre apart and continue them to almost the bottom of the card.

Open the card so that it is folded only once. The slits should form V shapes. Weave the V shapes by bending every alternate one outward and upward, and weaving it over and under the Vs above (see figure 2). The finished product can be cut into a V at the bottom or pasted on to contrasting coloured card.

## Cut-Outs

Use cut-outs from cards to make a collage of, for example, the Christmas Story, or a Victorian street scene. Or use them to create a montage of snowmen, robins or angels; a picture-strip telling a story; an ABC scrapbook for a child or a 3-D 'peepshow' in a shoe-box.

## **PATROL GAMES**

## Songs

The Patrol has a pile of cards and each girl, in turn, has to pick up a card and sing the first line of any song that the picture suggests to her. Other rounds could involve giving the name of a book, or a film, or whatever other category the Patrol can think of

## Christmas Card Pelmanism

For this the cards used in the opening activity could be re-used, but they would all need to be cut to the same size to avoid giving extra clues. The game is played like normal pelmanism, but with each Christmas card cut in half, and girls try to win pairs that match up.

## **COMPANY GAMES**

## Mime the Card

Cut out single items from cards, for example, Christmas

tree, snowman, bell, robin church and so on. Pin these round the room. One girl from each Patrol then goes to the leader. They are all told the same item and have to go back to their own. Patrol and mime it

When the Patrol has guessed one runner dashes to where the card is pinned on the wall.

The first girl to touch the card wins the point for her Patrol. She then becomes the next to mime and a new runner is chosen.

## Set up the Cards

Each girl has a Christmas card. A table for each Patrol is set up at one side of the room, and the Patrol lines up at the other side.

The first girl is blindfolded and has to walk to the table and set up her Christmas card, then she makes her way back to the Patrol. The second girl is then blindfolded and does the same.

If any cards are knocked over, the blindfolded girl must try to set them up again. The rest of the Patrol may call out advice! The first Patrol to set up all their cards wins.

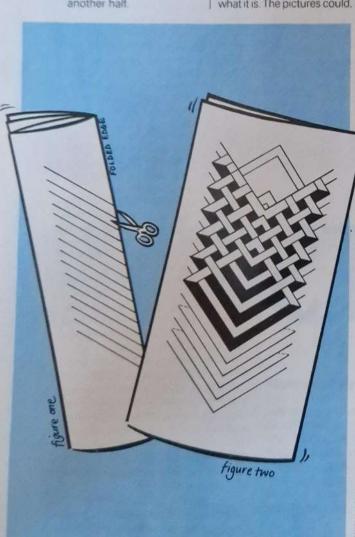
## Find a Card

Lots of cards are spread out all over the room. Each member of the Patrol is given a number. The leader calls out: 'I'm looking for a card with ... on it' (use failly common items that could be on several cards, for example; a robin, a star, the shepherds and so on) and then calls out a number

The girl with that number has to race round until she finds a suitable card. The first girl to give the card to the leader wins the point for her Patrol.

## PAULINE WAINWRIGHT

Next month: Plastic bottles. You'll need 1.5, 2 and 3 litre bottles, one per girl, and each girl will need another bottle for the games. Each Patrol should have identical bottles.



## ACTIVITIES

## Country Code

Find pictures on cards which could be used to illustrate each part of the Country Code, for example, gate, path, lake or stream, wild flowers and so on. Make these into a poster or booklet about the Code.

perhaps, be kept to start a Patrol nature scrapbook containing some information about each one.

## CRAFTS

## **Polish Weaving**

Make bookmarks by choosing a card with a colourful picture. Use only the front of

## RAINBOW GUIDERS

Welcome to 1993! The theme for this month is the ways we greet each other. The Rainbows will enjoy playing with words and using — maybe even showing off — their new-found skill of reading.

## WELCOME ALL

Talk about how we greet each other ranging from the very simple "Hello" or "Hi" to more formal handshakes or friendly hugs and kisses. Role play welcoming a guest to the meeting.

Get the girls to really think

greetings can the Rainbows suggest?

## **GLOVE PUPPETS**

Some children who are rather shy and don't like to talk too much in front of a group can be encouraged to speak through the 'words' of a glove puppet.

Keep a small collection of such puppets representing different characters in your resource cupboard. You will find they emerge to take part in all sorts of different occasions.

## **GETTING THERE**

This is an activity in which the Rainbows practise giving instructions and directions to each other.

You might start by giving instructions yourself to the group. For example, 'Stand in a line... bend over and touch your toes... all take one step forward together...' Then let each girl have a turn giving instructions to three or four other Rainbows as a group.

Discuss how they would walk around the room. Write

be pictorial postcards, photographs, greetings cards and so on.

Let the girls make their own 'notices' to go on the board

Some of the information may also be useful to parents dates of meetings, special events, news...

## TEASERS

Rainbows enjoy trying to twist their tongues around new words and enjoy playing with tongue twisters. How fast can they say them? Can they make up others to share with the group? Here are a few to get them going:

- A big black, bumble-bee buzzing by.
- The fish-and-chip shop's chips are soft.
- We shall see the sunshine shining soon.

## **NO WORDS**

Let the children imagine that they cannot speak. Encourage them to invent ways of communicating with each other without words. They might use gestures or draw pictures, they might act out ideas and words. Can they think of other ways of communicating?

## **THOUGHTS**

Think about all the ways in which we communicate with each other: by talking, smiling, hugging and cuddling; writing and sending cards; telephoning...

Say thank you for the gift of being able to talk to each other and to share our thoughts and feelings with other people.

## **NEXT MONTH**

In February we all think about the Guide Movement worldwide and, especially, we think about them on Thinking Day, February 22. We will also look at the theme of the past and long ago happenings.



about what welcoming means. Would they behave differently if the guest was an old person — or another child, for instance?

If any of the Rainbows' families come from another culture, perhaps they might share their words, ways and gestures of welcome.

You could write some of the welcoming words from other languages on sheets of paper and stick them around the hall. This would introduce the girls to the idea of other alphabets too.

Think about the words we use at different times of day to welcome people like 'Good afternoon', 'Good evening' and so on.

There are other words we use at different times of year. At the start of the year we say 'Happy New Year!', and soon we'll be saying 'Happy Easter!'. What other

## **PHONE CALLS**

If you can get hold of toy telephones or discarded real ones, the girls can have fun talking to one another.

You can show them how to answer the telephone and how to take messages and to make a call.

Teach them how to use the telephone in an emergency. Children no older than your Rainbows have saved someone's life because they knew how to phone for help.

## READ AND TELL

When you've read or told a story to the Rainbows, ask them to retell the story in pictures.

They can choose any part of the story — perhaps they might 'tell' a section each and then pin up the whole story in sequence around the hall.

down the route and then blindfold one of the girls and read out the directions for her to follow. Did they work?

Talk about how the girls would tell someone to go from the hall to a nearby place. Do they know how to get from the hall to, say, the letterbox, the shops, the post office...?

You will find that children who are taken by car a lot have less idea of locality than those who walk.

## NOTICEBOARD

You might like to introduce a noticeboard for the Rainbows to look at when they come to meetings. Change the information on it often so there's always something new and interesting.

Some of the information can be written clearly and simply. Other material can

## WONDERFUL WADDOW

Trips to Training Centres tend to be frenetic occasions. So much to take in and such a limited time to absorb it. Yet have you ever thought of taking time out to appreciate not only what the centre has to offer but the facilities that exist in the neighbourhood.

In this occasional series we'll be looking at our centres as jumping off points for super midweek breaks for a party of Rangers, Guiders or a family.

Waddow Hall, in Lancashire, is known throughout the

or the Ranger Cottage, which sleeps 15 in a variety of attractive one, two and fivebedded rooms.

If you want to visit at weekends or school holidays. early bookings are necessary. It's much easier to find space midweek, if your circumstances allow this

If all you want is to laze around and absorb the quiet loveliness of the grounds, Waddow is the ideal place. But it's equally good as a base for a more energetic holiday, as it's surrounded dington has won the title, Best Kept Lancashire Village. many times and was also chosen as the subject of a television series.

Look out for the lovely Coronation Gardens and the almshouses, founded for widows of local dalesmen and farmers. They were originally built in the 18th Century but later moved to their present position around the green.

During the Wars of the Roses, Henry VI of Lancaster lived at Waddington Hall until, pursued by the Yorkists ing a local woodcutter, so the fairies built the bridge to help him escape!

It's easier to establish the background of Browsholme Hall, the family seat of the formerly Bow-Parkers. bearers of Bowland The impressive 15th century Hall open only in the summer contains armour, arms, furniture, stained glass, carvings, textiles and rare books worth seeing

## ANCIENT LEGENDS

However, Browsholme Hall too has its legends. One says that if the human skull, kept in a locked cupboard. is shown to anyone outside the family, a terrible disaster will happen. Another claims that when a white horse appears in the grounds, a member of the family is about to die.

The nearest town to Waddow is Clitheroe, well worth a visit. Time your trip for a Tuesday or a Saturday, when you can browse round the thriving, open-air market.

Clitheroe Castle dates back at least 800 years and stands on a huge limestone rock at the top of the main street. From Easter to autumn you can visit its museum for a small charge.

Clitheroe has good shops. several of which have been handed down from generation to generation. Some have won awards, including a wine merchant and a firm which sells over 40 different types of sausage.

There are plenty of places to eat out, with a wide choice to suit all pockets.

## PERFECT PERIOD PIECE

In the evening, you can visit the Civic Hall cinema-cumtheatre, which guarantees only good family entertainment at all times!

Their slogan is 'It's worth going just to see the inside! The cinema is a real period



Waddow Hall North for its architectural a wonderful beauty, comfort and friendly place to stay welcome Most visitors remark on the peaceful atmosphere of the estate, tucked away in lovely countryside between Clitheroe and Waddington with the sparkling waters of the Ribble running through the grounds.

There's no better way to enjoy the calm than by staying in either the wellequipped, six-berth caravan

by outstanding areas of natural beauty, as well as plenty of activities for the more energetic visitor.

## BEST KEPT VILLAGE

A pleasant walk from Waddow Hall takes you to Waddington. There's an attractive brook running through the village, pretty cottages and a village green.

It's easy to see why Wad-

in 1465, he was forced to escape through a secret panel in the dining room and down a hidden staircase. He didn't get far. A Yorkist army captured him at Brungerly Bridge, near Clitheroe.

Slightly north-west of Waddow, you'll find the little village of Bashall Eaves. Blink and you may miss it! Keep an eye open for the Fairy Bridge. Legend tells that one night witches were chaspiece, including the grand piano - a must in the days of silent films.

If you go in early May, you might catch the Ribble Valley Drama Festival.

Not far from Waddow, on the road between Chatburn and Clitheroe, lies Salthill. formerly the site of a limestone quarry dating from the 17th Century. Today it is a fine wildlife conservation area and geology trail. It's particularly interesting if you've first visited the geology display in Clitheroe Castle Museum.

#### RAMBLING AROUND

For the rambler, the Ribble Valley offers numerous footpaths, moorland tracks and country lanes, as well as the obvious pleasures of riverbank rambling. Explore the Ribble Way, or try Edisford Bridge Recreation Centre. It's on the B5243 just over a mile outside Clitheroe and a good place to start a pleasant riverside walk.

The Centre's leisure facilities also include a children's playpark, pitch and putt course, cafeteria and miniature railway - something for everyone, in fact.

Nearby on Edisford Road is the Ribblesdale swimming pool with a solarium and facilities for the disabled. Opening times vary so you need to check.

Groups of ten or more who are feeling super fit can book a session at Pendle Ski Club for between £3 and £5, depending on age.

The clubhouse is at Nick O' Pendle, Sabden, about one and a half miles southeast of Clitheroe. Full details can be obtained from the Tourist Information Board at Clitheroe Council Offices. One noteworthy facility is a monthly session for disabled skiers, usually on the third Saturday of the month.

How far you can explore will, obviously, depend on whether you have transport. But if you haven't a car, and you've been everywhere possible on foot, there are alternatives.

Cycles can be hired in Clitheroe at daily or weekly rates, and buses run from the town centre to many places of interest. One destination is Spring Wood, three and a half miles south of Clitheroe, where you'll find a 40-acre picnic site and nature trail set in lovely woodland.

If you do have wheels try

Then, of course, there's Pendle. The Pendle Witches are so famous that one of them has even found her way on to the Lancashire East County Badgel

Pendle Hill is south east of Clitheroe (a good vantage point is at Nick O' Pendle. Sabden) and your visit will be enhanced by a knowledge

and convicted. The public execution took place in August, 1612 at Lancaster.

Pendle Hills isn't just known for its connection with witchcraft, but also because it's where George Fox had the vision which led him to found the Quaker Movement.

Sabden, bordering on Pendle Hill, is worth a visit for more than its dry ski slopes.



to reach Ribchester. From Clitheroe, take the A59 through Billington, then turn north on the B6245. Ribchester is a historic village built on an ancient Roman site. Much of the Roman remains are buried under the churchyard, but you can see many artefacts in the excellent Roman Museum.

There is also the much acclaimed Museum of Childhood containing, among other wonders, a working model fairground. But be warned avoid weekend visits in summer if possible.

Round off your outing to Ribchester by travelling north-west to Longridge, from where you can return to Waddow by a pleasant country route through Knowle Green and Hurst Green.

of its history.

There's a wealth of literature on the subject, available at local heritage centres and bookshops. Briefly, in 1612. ten women from the Pendle area were found quilty of witchcraft

Two of them, Old Demdike of Malkin Tower - now demolished - and Chattox, from Higham, openly admitted to being witches. They freely described their activities, including details of their familiars and using clay images and pins to harm innocent people.

Demdike's daughter, Alizon, and Chattox' daughter. Anne, were accused. Further charges were added following a Witches' Assembly at Old Demdike's home. More women were sent for trial The old mill is home to The countryside Pendle Antique Centre and around younger visitors will enjoy Waddow is some the Sabden Treacle Mines! of Britain's Local legend claims that most beautiful parkin used to be made by and unspoilt land weaving together oatmeal and treacle!

Waddow's a wonderful place to stay. It's one of our special Guiding homes and, as such, it gives one an immense sense of pride to show it off to friends and family. And the surrounding countryside is, without doubt. some of Britain's most beautiful and unspoilt land.

**GILLIAN ELLIS** 

For more details on staying at Waddow write to: The Guider-in-Charge, Waddow, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 3LD, or telephone 0200 23186.

# **BROWNIE GUIDERS**

Plan a Thinking Day open evening based around WAGGGS, and you can combine the Movement's history and international aspect in a fun way.

#### **SHOW TIME**

Try this Thinking Day presentation, Think of a Number!

During the first meeting. Brownies colour bold letters and single numbers on A5 cards. The following week they practise and the third

bine two short statements.

Arrange the Pack facing the audience. As each girl speaks from her own place, those making the numbers move to the centre and back again at the appropriate moments.

To begin cards are held up to spell: Think of a number!

1 This year the Guide Movement is 83 years old! (The Pack sings 'Happy Birthday, dear Guiding!')



week they perform.

Each time an italicised number or word is mentioned, several Brownies spring into line holding up cards to form that number or word

The following text cards, prepared by the Guider, are distributed among the Brownies Some will have more than one, or you could com-

**2** Want to see how many countries have Guides and Brownies? (118)

3 Want to know how many members there are in our Movement? (8,000,000)

**4** It all started in 1907 when Robert Baden-Powell started the Boy Scout Movement

**5** In 1909 there was a Boy Scout Rally at the Crystal Palace in London. Want to know how many boys were there? (11,000)

6 They weren't the only ones! Some girls went, too. They wanted to be Scouts! (10 Brownies hold up cards spelling Girl Scouts and shout We're the Girl Scouts! Let us join! Let us join!')

**7** So in 1910 Robert Baden-Powell asked his sister Agnes to help him start a Movement for girls.

8 He called it after some famous Indian soldiers called the Guides (Brownies hold up cards spelling *Girl Guides* and chant: 'We are the *Girl Guides*!')

**9** In 1912 Robert Baden-Powell married Olave Soames

10 In 1916 Olave Baden-Powell became Chief Commissioner

11 In 1918 she became Chief Guide.

12 The Movement began to spread abroad. In 1919 Olave started the International Council to unite the Guiding countries.

13 In 1920, the first International Council was held in Oxford, attended by visitors from 15 countries.

14 In 1926 a day was chosen when members world-wide would think about each other in friendship.

**15** The date chosen was February 22 because it was the birthday of both Robert and Olave Baden-Powell.

16 The name of the special day was to be *Thinking Day*.
17 In 1928 WAGGGS was formed to replace the International Council. The initials stand for (all Brownies say together) World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts!

18 in 1929 Robert-Baden Powell was made a baron, becoming Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell.

19 in 1930 Olave Baden-Powell became World Chief Guide. No one else has ever held that title.

20 In 1932 Our Chalet was opened in Switzerland. It was the first of the WAGGGS

international World Centres
21 In 1939 the second
World Centre was opened
in London. It was called Our
Ark

22 In 1941 Lord Baden-Powell died in Kenya Lady Baden-Powell carried on her Guiding work for nearly 30 years after his death.

23 In 1946 the World Badge (show an old World Flag) was created to be worn by every member of the Movement throughout the world. The same badge was used on Guide flags.

24 The gold and blue represent the sun shining in the blue sky over all the children of the world.

25 The three leaves represent the threefold Promise made by all Guides.

26 The two stars represent the Promise and Law.

27 The vein in the centre represents a compass needle pointing the right way to live

28 The curly base represents the flame of the love of man.
29 In 1957 the third World Centre was opened in Mexico. It is called *Our Cabaña*.
30 In 1963 Our Ark moved to a bigger building and was renamed *Olave House* after the World Chief Guide.

31 In 1966 WAGGGS' fourth World Centre was opened in India. It is called Sangam. which means 'Going together'

32 In 1970 Lady Baden-Powell retired from active Guiding and lived quietly at Hampton Court. She died there in 1977.

33 The Movement has grown since then and is still growing. In 1991 the London World Centre opened. It is now called Pax Lodge.

34 in 1991 the World Badge was updated. (Show a new World Flag)

35 The meaning is still the same, with the addition of three gold squares, standing for the threefold Promise, and the white blaze, standing for WAGGGS' commitment to peace.

# **ALL WRAPPED UP**

It's no fun sampling the great outdoors in the winter unless you are properly wrapped up. However, buying a cosy, wind-proof jacket is a major purchase with jackets often retailing at between £100 and £150.

One company has come up with a less expensive solution. Pennine Outdoor of Huddersfield can provide the top quality material and the know-how for you to make your own. For around £50 the package also includes all those vital bits and pieces you need — thread, zips and so on — as well as the pattern and the fabric. And, as a bonus, your jacket will be waterproof as well as windproof.

The company offers a range of patterns and fabrics. For their complete catalogue phone 0484 689100/1 or write to Pennine Outdoor at

Hard Knott, Holmbridge, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD7 1NT.

The jacket featured in our photograph uses Pattern 3, a simple unisex style in Sportant microfibre fleece, which is comfortable, lightweight and can be handwashed. It comes in a riot of colours including raspberry, jade, teal and purple.

Condensation-free and windproof Pertex nylon was used for the inner lining with Supertex 1 forming the interlining. This membrane is guaranteed to allow moisture vapour out but prevents rain getting in. It takes 1.5 metres of each fabric for an average-size jacket.

#### You will need:

- 1.5m P41 fleece
- 1.5m P33 membrane
- 1.5m P1 Pertex
- Pattern 3

- 2 reels thread
- 70cm reversible open-ended zip
- 4 x 15cm pocket zips
- 1.5m Lycra edging.

The 70cm reversible zip is used on the front of the jacket and the four 15cm pocket zips are used on the two pockets in both the jacket and the lining.

Step-by-step instructions are given in the multi-size pattern and the jacket is made up as two separate garments.

The waterproof membrane must be anchored to the outer fabric as you make it up. securing it around the pocket openings before inserting the zips.

Then the two jackets are joined at the collar, down the front zip edge, around the sleeve edges and around the waist.

As a finishing touch, the cuffs and waist are neatly trimmed with narrow, stretchy Lycra edging — guaranteed to make the jacket fit snugly.



# INSTANT

Stuck for meeting ideas? Tired of repeating the same old activities? You need help from GUIDE PATROL or BROWNIE (with RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA).

Each magazine is crammed full of instant ideas, fun activities and great games. Just what every busy Guider needs.

Order your copies now from your friendly local newsagent or on subscription direct from CHQ.

At £1 for GUIDE PATROL and £1 for BROWNIE plus RAINBOW GUIDE EXTRA they're real Guiding good value.



#### THE EIGHT POINTS

# LET'S MAKE IT!

Brownies who enjoy making things will be delighted to discover that they can carry on Exploring the Arts when they move up to Guides. Most making will be done indoors, so this month's section is divided into things to be made for use indoors or outdoors. Some can be made by individual older Brownies; others need two or more working together.

#### **INDOORS**

#### PAPIER MACHE SCULPTURE

Materials, newspaper, flour, water and a mixing bowl.

To make flour and water paste: mix two parts flour to one part hot water. Allow to cool.

1 Tear newspaper into strips about 1 in wide and dip into paste.

2 Either work wet strips together like clay, squeezing out excess moisture, and form into your chosen shape or wrap strips over another form such as a polythene bottle, a shaped lump of polystyrene foam, plastic plant pot, wire frame or inflated balloon.

3 Allow sculpture to dry, then paint or varnish.

Possible uses: masks, plant pot holders, bulb pots, stage scenery such as rocks or tree trunks, or a Pack toadstool formed over an inverted washing-up bowl.

#### DECOUPAGE

Materials: old magazines, wrapping paper or greetings cards, strong boxes, cocoa tins or similar with nonsharp edges, paint, glue, varnish, brushes.

- 1 Remove label. Wash and dry container.
- 2 Paint outside of container and allow to dry
- **3** Cut pictures from magazines and so on. Glue on to container, overlapping to form an attractive design.

4 Varnish over pictures, dry

completely, then varnish again.

Possible uses: tins for pencil holders, utensil holders, planters; boxes for jewellery, writing paper, pencils. Trays or table mats can be renewed by the same method.

## MURAL

Materials: long roll of white paper, (lining paper or back of wallpaper), newspaper, paints, brushes, overalls!

A mural is, literally, a wallpainting. If you know someone who will let the girls paint directly on to a wall, you won't need paper! Otherwise, cover the floor with newspaper, then place your roll of plain paper on this.

Brownies decide on a theme — murals usually tell a story — and mark out in pencil the amount of space each Brownie is allowed. Before beginning, make sure you know how and where you'll move the painting to dry, as they'll certainly need to work on it over several meetings.

Suggestions for subjects: the seasons, Noah, zoo, circus, Christmas Eve, the Christmas Story, Brownies through the ages; overseas Brownies, Easter; Nursery rhymes.

#### PLAIT A MAT

Materials: collection of old socks, the more colourful the better; large needle; embroidery thread.

1 Cut socks into slices about 3cm wide (figure 1).

Fig 1

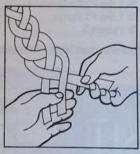
2 Make a chain by looping six slices together (figure 2).

Fig 2



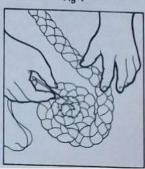
- 3 Make two more chains the same way.
- 4 Hitching the three end loops under a chair leg, plait the three chains together, taking care not to pull too tightly (figure 3).

Fig 3



- **5** As you reach the end of each chain add more loops, a few at a time. If you need to stop plaiting, secure plait with safety-pin.
- **6** When the plait is about two metres long, sew end together and cut off the surplus.
- 7 Curl the plait round itself, sewing it as you go. If it starts to curl, you're pulling too tightly, so loosen stitches a bit (figure 4).

Fig 4



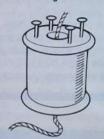
Mats can be any size. You can also use loops cut from pyjama legs or shirt sleeves, as long as fabric is flexible. Perhaps the Brownies could join forces to make a Pack mat to go under the toadstool, or Six mats to sit on during games.

#### FRENCH KNITTING

Materials: an old-style wooden cotton reel for each Brownie; wool; hairgrip.

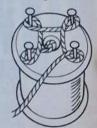
- 1 Knock four nails into the top of the reel.
- 2 Push wool through centre of reel (figure 5).

Fig 5



- 3 Hold the bottom end of the wool and reel firmly in the same hand.
- 4 Wind the other end of the wool once round each nail (figure 6).

Fig 6

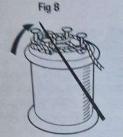


5 Wind wool round the outside of all nails (figure 7).



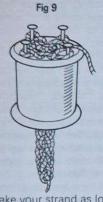
# THE EIGHT POINTS

6 Holding down this end, use the hairgrip to lift bottom loops over nails (figure 8).



7 Gently pull the bottom end of the wool.

8 Repeat moves 4 to 7 until you have a long strand of knitted wool coming from the hole in the cotton reel (figure 9).



9 Make your strand as long as you like, changing wool as frequently as you like by knotting balls together firmly. 10 To finish, break off the wool, thread a needle with wool and pass the needle through each loop, pulling them off the nails as you do

so. Tighten the wool and tie

a knot in it.
You can use your long strand in a similar way to the sock mats, but for table mats. You may need to back the table mats with felt or fabric circles to keep them from curling up.

#### THREE-D WEAVING

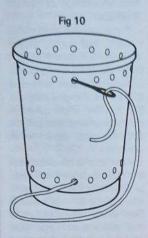
Materials: a polystyrene cup, wool in two colours, large needle, ruler, tape measure and pencil.

1 Mark pencil dots at approximately 1 cm intervals about 2 cm around the base of the cup. There must be an odd number.

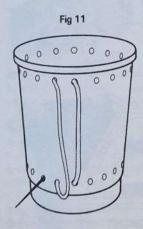
2 Using your ruler to keep a straight line, mark dots opposite each base dot, but about 1cm from the rim.

3 Make a hole with your needle through each dot.

4 Starting inside the base of the cup, push your needle outwards through a hole, then push it back towards the inside through the hole directly above (figure 10).



**5** Bring it out again through the hole right next to it at the top and push it in again at the base hole opposite and so on, until you reach the beginning again (figure 11).



**6** Finish off by threading the wool through the stitches inside the cup.

**7** Using the other shade of wool, pass the needle in and out of alternate strands, working bottom to top, fastening off inside (figure 12).

This woven cup can be used as an attractive plant pot holder or you can weight it at the base with Plasticine for use as a pen and pencil holder.

#### **OUTDOORS**

#### **PLASTER CASTS**

If you live near open ground or woodland, be a nature detective. The Brownies will enjoy making animal track plaster casts.

1 Place a ring of stiff card about 4cm high around an animal's pawprint.

2 Pour liquid plaster of Paris into the card ring and allow it to harden.

3 Carefully lift the plaster cake and the shape of the animal track will be raised on top of it.

If you have no access to animal tracks, you can make leaf plaster casts by pouring a little plaster of Paris into the lid of a margarine tub. Then gently press a leaf into the plaster as it begins to harden. When the plaster is completely hard, carefully remove the leaf.

#### **BAT AND BALL**

**Materials:** old stockings or tights, newspaper, needle and thread, wire coat hangers, scissors, masking tape.

Make a lightweight ball

by screwing up a sheet of newspaper very tightly and pushing it into the toe of a stocking. Twist the stocking and pull it inside out over the ball. Continue twisting and turning the stocking as tightly as possible, keeping the ball a good round shape as you go. When you reach the end of the stocking, sew the edge firmly down.

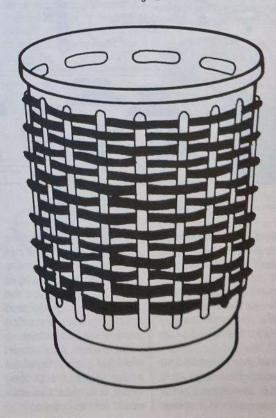
Make a bat by bending a wire coathanger into a diamond shape and straightening out the hook to form a handle. Pull the foot of the stocking over the wire, taking care not to ladder it. Pull the material so that the bat is taut. Wind stocking leg around the handle and tape it all the way down, then cut off excess stocking and tape.

#### **DIPPING NET**

Similarly, a good net for pond-dipping may be made by forming a wire coat hanger into a ring, attaching the foot of the stocking with a few stitches round the wire rim, and inserting the straightened-out hook into a long bamboo rod.

**GILLIAN ELLIS** 

Fig 12



Andrew or a second

# **GUIDE GUIDERS**

Next month we celebrate Thinking Day, so when the Patrol Leaders' Council meets at the start of this term, they should consider plans for the Patrol and unit celebrations. Before that meeting stop and think if you always do the same time. Do you tend to leave planning until the last minute and then just play a few games from overseas? Wouldn't it be better to give the girls a real share in celebrating this special day?

#### THINK AHEAD

The Founder expected the boys he recruited to make their own choices, so set time aside for your Patrols to make their choices, before the Patrol Leaders meet.

It might help to give them some points to decide... Do they want to dress up?... Should food be included?... Will there be

impossible! In the unlikely event of them having no ideas, perhaps you could try some of ours.

Displays — give each Patrol a continent, or specific country, and ask them to create a display of village life. It could include model houses, domestic animals, people, crops and so on. If the girls are unsure what the villages are really like, libraries, and some school books, will have pictures.

There are also materials available from charities such as UNICEF and OXFAM. Your County International Adviser may have such resources or may be able to help you to get them.

TEARCRAFT produces kits of village life, which are meant to be coloured and cut out. If the Patrol has funds, they may want to invest about £1 in a kit.

#### **FUN FOOD**

Food is inevitably part of the proceedings! Try extending their knowledge of foreign products.

If you have suitable shops nearby, and funds, buy a variety of unusual fruit, and then use it in a Kim's Game. Label the fruit and put it on a tray and let the girls look at it for a while. Then cover in the normal way, and ask the girls to write down what they saw.

After this is checked, ask the girls to close their eyes, or blindfold them, and pass each piece of fruit around. They should identify by feel and remember what fruit they are handling. Ask them to write down the order the fruit came in, without looking at the first lists they'd made.

Avoid waste by eating the fruit either raw, or in a suitable dish. For example,

ties, each Patrol could be challenged to produce an unusual overseas dish, or to make something using a variety of ingredients from overseas. A recently-invented savoury roll I tasted contained sausage meat, soy sauce, tomatoes, onion (chopped and pre-cooked), mixed herbs and seasoning, all wrapped up in herby short-crust pastry. It was delicious and contained ingredients from ten countries!

If you have no facilities for cooking, give each Patrol a small amount of money to go to the local shops and purchase a selection of unusual foods to taste.

Many shops now carry a wide range of cookies, savouries, breads, meats and cheeses from overseas. To prevent duplication, the girls could first investigate what is available, draw up a list, and then check with the other Patrols.

If there are no local shops, this could be planned for the previous weekend as a Patrol expedition, or an outing for the Guider and the Patrol Leaders.

There are lots of games ideas in such books as World Games and Recipes (WAGGGS): NotJust Thinking Day (GGA) and Songs. Games and Stories from around the World (UNICEF).

If you buy these now, you will have time to gather the necessary equipment, and plan what to play in time for your unit celebrations.

Next month: a few quickes for those who are still short of ideas!

Catalogues can be obtained from:

UNICEF — 55 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3NB or Baltic Chambers, 50 Wellington Street, Glasgow

OXFAM — Youth and Education Department, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ

TEARCRAFT — 100 Church Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 8QE



displays? Could they invite others along — the Brownies, another Guide unit, the Trefoil Guild or local Scouts? What will they do — games, crafts or an entertainment? How will they raise money for the Thinking Day Fund?

When they have had time to discuss their ideas, hold the PLC, and listen to what they say, even if it seems

When they have decided on their displays, these can be linked to costume, and to food. Perhaps they could all dress as villagers for the evening. This might demand a little ingenuity, but crêpe paper is very adaptable!

Or maybe they could develop a puppet play about a day in the life of their village, or a celebration associated with its culture. most people would enjoy a tropical fruit salad.

If you cannot get the actual products, then use pictures and challenge them to match names to the fruit.

#### SMELL KIM

Oriental spices lend themselves to a 'Smell Kim', unless you know the girls are prone to sneezing!

If you have cooking facili-

# RANGER GUIDERS

Do you ever challenge the Rangers to do something which, at first glance, seems impossible but which, with some ingenuity, commitment and involvement on their behalf, might be possible?

Do you ever push them beyond the boundaries within which they normally work?



#### **FOREIGN LANDS**

If not, then how about challenging the Rangers to get themselves to another European country between now and Thinking Day? There is still plenty of time if they really want to get there and it would give everyone the chance to experience overseas travel.

Action: Work out with your Assistants, Unit Helpers and relevant Commissioner what would be a reasonable challenge to your Unit.

Take into account points such as:

- Support would you need to be with them or could they go without you?
- Overseas would you need support from local Guiding in the place to which they travel?
- Finance would they be self-financing, or would they need to raise funds? If cash is needed, how would you support any members who can't afford it?
- Destinations where could they aim for?
- Group size will there be enough of them rising to the challenge to make it a success?

Beware of letting 'don't know factors put you off!

#### CHALLENGING

Action: Issue the challenge to the Unit — giving them as much freedom as you possibly can And supply the Rangers with some of the information that they might need to get started. You might include in this

- information on day shopping trips to France
- details of weekend ferries
   details of the Inter-rail
- cards (there is one now for those of 26+)
- maps of Europe
- books such as Europe by Train published by Fontana and available in libraries.

Once interest has been stirred, then feed in the other queries such as:

- Can they raise sufficient cash? Perhaps those who have no problems could help those who do by running a fundraising event.
- Do they have contacts who might offer accommodation? Have any of them been on a twin-town event, for example.
- How long could they be away for — a day, a weekend, or the whole of half-term? If you have Rangers who work, how much holiday do they have left?



• What do they need in terms of documents, currencies, emergency cash?

#### **CHECK LIST**

Activity: Try to get the Rangers to work to a 'job' check list, so that each one knows what her task is.

Things they will need to think of collecting will be:

• Forms for a British Visitors Passport, if they need one. Remember there is a British Excursion Document for travel to France, if you plan to stay for under 60 hours.



 Passport photographs how about a Unit excursion to the nearest photo booth. or inviting someone into the meeting to snap away? A Ranger taking her Photographer staged badge could think this quite a challenge.



- Information from railway stations timetables, fares, special excursion leaflets. Look out for the Boots/ British Rail Free Ticket offer. With the careful use of these and a Family Rail Card, the Unit should be able to move about within the UK relatively cheaply. Don't forget to book as far in advance as you can to avoid disappointment.
- Information from local travel agents and tour firms who might have some special excursion on offer.

#### INFORMATION

Action: You will need to do your bit by keeping your International Adviser and Commissioner involved and informed. Don't let the thought of having to fill in forms put a damper on the challenge.

If you can get on with the mundane, then the Rangers can get on with the more exciting planning.

That doesn't mean that they should remain unaware



of what is happening, but don't let it dominate the proceedings.

Once the Rangers have decided that they will accept the challenge, then the details will be up to them. But it is a good idea to ask to see in advance the detailed plans, so that you can sit down

and talk them through.

Make sure that they have considered:

- 1 Accommodation do they all belong, for instance, to the YHA?
- 2 Money how much will they take: will it be in currency, travellers cheques or sterling? Do they need some emergency money — could the Unit help with this?
- 3 Insurance do they understand the GGA Insurance policy and have they covered equipment?



- 4 Food if they are travelling on a 'shoe-string' and for a short trip, will they have sufficient food and drink with them?
- **5** Emergency contacts who will be their emergency contact and have they supplied all relevant information?



- **6** First Aid is their preparation suitable and is it sufficient for the group?
- 7 Information to parents have they been given all the details they need?
- 8 Timetable is what they plan possible? Does everything fit together and are they in suitable places at sensible times?

After all the planning and nervous energy generated you will, no doubt, want to go with them!

If you see yourself as part of the working unit, then the challenge might be as equally stimulating for you as it is to the Rangers. So go for it

#### **COPING WITH**

# **MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS**

You are unlikely to have a Brownie, Guide or Ranger in your unit known to have multiple sclerosis. This is not because it is a particularly rare disease but because the symptoms usually appear between the early 20s and late 30s. In some cases the onset is later.

But in your Guiding career you could easily encounter another Guider. Unit Helper, or a parent who has MS and may need to know how to react to them.

It could be helpful, therefore, to know more about this disorder and perhaps glean some understanding of what it is like to have MS from one who knows — Denise Driver, Brownie Guider of the 11th Dewsbury Pack, West Yorkshire.

61 was 25 when, in August, 1991, I was finally diagnosed as having MS but, since my late teens, I had experienced problems I found both annoying and frightening.

For no apparent reason I would fall over things that weren't there and walk into large objects, particularly lamp-posts. I suffered with severe headaches, extreme fatigue and a loss of sensation in my left arm.

With all the little inexplicable accidents I soon became labelled "accident prone", which I found deeply hurtful, especially as I believed that, with more care, I could easily have avoided these mishaps.

In this, as it turned out, I was quite wrong, but I dismissed the symptoms as being too trivial with which to bother my GP.

I carried on as normally as possible, continuing with my clerical job, my Christian youth group and — very important to me — my Guiding

But the extra effort I had to make to do this took its toll and I deteriorated. The curious accidents became more frequent. Some



required hospital treatment.

On one visit to the casualty department I was advised to consult my GP about my symptoms. This I did and was diagnosed as suffering from typical migraine attacks. These. I was told, would

explain the visual disturbances and fatigue I was experiencing

I was given medication but the symptoms got worse Eventually, when I was admitted to hospital for tests, an EEG revealed I had some kind of disorder. At another hospital, where I was given a brain scan, I was diagnosed as suffering from retrobulbar neuritis.— inflammation of the optic nerves.

The treatment was high dosage steroids through

# **COPING WITH**

intravenous drip, and for this I was transferred to yet another hospital. Further tests proved inconclusive and, after five weeks, I was allowed home.

My problems continued and after two more years, I was readmitted to hospital. This time tests led to a conclusive diagnosis — I had MS.

Since then my lifestyle has had to change quite a bit. I have had to give up my job, which became too demanding for me, live at a more lessurely pace and pay attention to my diet — something I never did previously.

Life had been so hectic that I grabbed and rushed meals, often making do with chips, crisps and chocolate. I now try to follow a healthy diet, which people with MS are advised to do. It's hard, but I'm managing — with a bit of cheating now and again!

I have stopped trying to hide my disability and my Brownies have been very understanding and supportive. They have asked lots of questions and shown a lot of interest. Now I do not know why I ever hid my MS from them.

Although I am losing the use of my left arm and my eyes are never free from inflammation, the seventy of my disablement varies considerably — with "bad days" and "good days". My legs, for example, are unstable, but not all the time.

Even though I suffer and find District meetings a strain. I am still able to continue with my Guiding which, of course, I find very rewarding.

All I want is to be a good Guider, helping her Brownies. They work hard for their badges, but they know these aren't all that matters. They enjoy helping others, particularly in hospitals and old people's homes. They understand that having a disability doesn't make someone a different person.

My Brownies have never lost out, however, because of my problem. I have two wonderful assistants and a Unit Helper, willing to take on anything I cannot do.

People with MS sometimes feel frustrated. Irightened — and even angry. I certainly do, especially when others treat me as if I have a mental illness. But I have found out the hard way that it is better to let everyone know how I am feeling.

#### WHAT IS MS?

MS is the most common of the neurological diseases which attack the central nervous system — the CNS. It is called multiple sclerosis because of the multiple scarring, or sclerosis which it causes on the spinal cord and brain. Typical symptoms include impaired speech, blurred or double vision, incontinence, and fatigue. But these do not, in themselves, pinpoint MS, as they can all have other causes.

The grey matter of the nervous system, concerned with that part of the brain dealing with the conscious — thought and memory — normally remains unaffected by MS.

MS, in its acute form, proceeds in a series of attacks which impair the functions of the nervous system. These are usually followed by periods of remission during which some of the functions

which some of the functions

The nerve fibres of the CNS called the white matter, carry the sensory messages to the brain, as well as the impulses from the brain to the muscles. The fibres of the CNS are surrounded by the myelin sheath, which insulates and protects them in much the same way as the insulation on an electric cable.

With MS, parts of the myelin sheath become inflamed and damaged, and this affects the transmission of the nerve impulses. Patches of demyelination can occur in any part of the nervous system but, particularly, in the spinal cord, at neck level, and in the nerves from the eyes.

Any part of the CNS can be affected — often people will have visual or sensory problems first, but they can also have difficulty with movement, co-ordination or balance may be recovered, or partially recovered, either by the body's own healing process, or because the brain has succeeded in re-routing the signal through undamaged nerve material

In the chronic form, progress of the disease tends to be more gradual, without sudden attacks or remissions, reaching a certain degree of severity before levelling out. In such cases it may not then become appreciably worse for a long time

But the course of the disease and the severity of the disablement which it brings, is always unpredictable. Some patients may be confined to a wheelchair within a relatively short time, others may suffer only slight disablement for many years.

#### WHO GETS MS?

Despite a great deal of research, the cause of the disease is still not known. There are at least 80,000 people in Britain known to have MS, although the disease is not easily diagnosed. Two out of three are female.

Some people, it is believed, may be vulnerable to MS because of their genetic make-up But research still has a long way to go before it will be possible to identify those at risk, and a cure is still far away.

What is certain, is that MS, like all other associated neurological diseases, is not in itself hereditary. Nor can it be 'caught'. There is, therefore, absolutely no risk what-soever involved in coming into close contact with someone who has MS.

#### **HOW TO COPE**

While no treatment can cure the disease, certain therapies have been devised to help people with MS to come to terms with it, including physiotherapy and counselling.

If you come into contact
— perhaps through Guiding
— with anyone who has
MS, you may be able to help
them just by taking the right
attitude

That does not mean pretending you haven't noticed they are unsteady on their feet that someone has to hold their teacup for them, or that their speech is impaired it means treating them as a normal person, and not patronising them by being over-attentive or talking over their heads.

If the circumstances make it appropriate, do not be afraid to mention the subject. People with MS don't want simpering sympathy. Most are quite happy to discuss the subject in a matter-of-fact-way. It can make them feel less isolated.

 For more information contact the Multiple Sclerosis Society, 25 Effice Road, London SW6 1EE

Guiders who have any queries about disabilities should contact the County Adviser for Members with Disabilities.

# **YOUNG LEADERS**

This is the time of year when I many of you will choose to tackle Part II, clause 7 of the Young Leader Scheme. The success of your Thinking Day Ceremony, like any ceremony, depends on careful planning.

# STEPS TO

Here are some guidelines for running events.

1 Decide on your theme (in consultation with the girls and Guiders at Rainbow Chat, Pow-wow or Patrol Leaders Council). Are you specialising in just one country, several countries or just general 'international' theme? Will it be linked with a particular project?

2 Consider if it is to be just for your unit, a joint event with another unit or a District

3 Where will you hold it? It could be at your normal meeting place, but perhaps and games.

Brownies especially enjoy dressing up in uniforms or national costumes from other countries

If candles are to feature in your ceremony, be aware of the safety aspect. Keep neckerchiefs and long hair well away from flames, and make sure that candles are secure

6 Write down your plan on paper, including approximate timings for each item don't forget to include preparation time, if necessary.

7 Don't try and do everything yourself. Enlist the help of others, but make sure everyone knows what they are expected to do.

# THINKING DAY

Now for some ideas to use in your celebrations:

 Decorate a paper tablecloth with flags and badges

tional items; music, food; I overseas Brownie or Guide uniforms.

 Invite someone who has lived in or can trace their roots back to another country to tell your unit about it.

 Make a decoration popular in another country, for example: Danish heart, Mexican God's eye.

• Learn Taps in a language other than English. Sing it at the end of your meeting.

#### FRIENDSHIP HECKLACE

You will need: 4 ply or double knitting wool; 10mm diameter wooden beads (one for each necklace) and 5mm diameter wooden beads (13 for each necklace).

Cut a length of wool, 1m long. Thread the large bead on to the wool, leaving it at the centre. Place both ends together and tie an overhand knot next to the bead, using both strands. This bead symdouble knots, depending on the size of the hole in the bead.

Try to keep the spacing as even as possible. These beads symbolise the ten Guide Laws.

Now tie the ends of the wool together to make a circle, symbolising the Guiding family.

This idea could also be used to introduce the Promise and Law to new Guides, or even to tell Brownies a little about Guides.

Or you could play an international version of Kim's game using a collection of items from overseas. As well as remembering the object. players have to remember its country of origin.

Here are some other games you could play:

#### FOREIGN **FLAG STEPS**

You will need a set of cards. each showing a flag from a different country, one per player. Each player is given a card. One player stands at the far end of the room, with her back to the others.

She calls out instructions such as 'Red, two steps forwards', or 'Black, one step

The other players follow the instructions according to the colours of their flags. The first to reach the caller shouts the name of her country and takes the caller's place.

# MEOW

Players sit in a large circle. and are given the name of the pre-Brownie section in another country, for example Gumnut, Australia, Spark, Canada, Pippin, New Zealand, Ladybird, Ireland

The leader calls out one of the names and those players get up and run around the circle back to their places. The first back gets a token. At the call Rainbows round the world'. all players get up and run



the girls will have other ideas Do you need special permission or facilities?

4 Work out if you will invite any special guests, who will take part and how will everyone be involved?

5 What is to be included? You may have 'traditions' in your unit - if so, that's fine, but don't neglect new and exciting ideas Decide whether you will have displays of pictures/internaand use it as the centrepiece for your ceremony.

 Learn and perform a national song or dance from another country.

 Make dolls and dress them in national costumes from around the world, or ask the girls to bring their own national costume dolls.

 Have an international meal, featuring courses from different countries.

Dress paper dolls in

bolises the world.

Now thread both ends of the wool through one of the smaller beads, and tie another overhand knot using both strands. Repeat using two more beads. These three beads represent our threefold Promise

Next, separate the two strands, thread five small beads on to each strand. separating them with knots as before. This may need |

# HIGHLIGHTS

# **OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED**

FOXLEASE March 23-25 (midweek) WADDOW

September 21-23 (midweek)

This training is for anyone approaching retirement from work and/or Guiding. It's about making the most of your retirement years. It's an opportunity to discover there's more to life than work and Guiding.

Topics covered will include:

- retirement from Guiding
- work opportunities
- money management
- leisure time
- health issues.

#### FIRST THINGS FIRST

WADDOW April 16-18

Who is it for?

- Programme and Training Advisers
- Anyone who co-ordinates training events
- Training Licence holders

What's it about?

Co-ordinators — come and discuss your role and exchange ideas which will help you plan the perfect training event.

Trainers — this is your chance to talk to trainers from other Countries/Regions. Experiment with energisers, discuss difficulties and tune up your techniques.

Co-ordinators and Trainers an opportunity for you to get together away from the stress of the training event, to give your side of the story and discuss ways of working together.

# THE PROMISE IN ACTION

FOXLEASE: July 9-11 WADDOW March 19-21

It is generally accepted that discussing the Promise can be a daunting experience. How much should one share one's own beliefs? How does one avoid appearing judgmental? Are there 'standards' we should aim for? What exactly does the Promise mean anyway?

The Promise is at the heart of everything we do in Guiding. This weekend will endeavour to develop our confidence in sharing it, using a wide variety of pertinent and relevant techniques.

#### Aims

- To enable participants to increase their confidence during discussion and activities about the Promise with girls and adults.
- To develop participants' understanding of the Promise and its relevance to Guiding and to life.

Who is it for? This weekend is for ... YOU!

### CONTEMPORARY

FOXLEASE February 19-21 WADDOW June 22-24

Who is it for?

These trainings will provide an opportunity for all Guiders to explore further the issues affecting the lives of young people today.

#### What's it about?

Guiders are in a unique position to support the girls in making the right decisions for life. These trainings will look in depth at relevant topics, as well as arming Guiders with a wealth of resources and ideas.

Topics will include:

- teenage pregnancy
- child abuse
- drug awareness
- leaving home
- the wider world.

#### STANDARD FIRST AID COURSE

FOXLEASE May 28-31

This four-day course will lead to successful candidates gaining the British Red Cross

Standard First Aid Certificate, a particularly useful qualification for adults wishing to act as First Aiders at camps and holidays.

You will be trained by the British Red Cross Society and there will be an examination on the final day. The certificate is valid for three years. Guiders wishing to gain this qualification for use at work may also gain the First Aid At Work Certificate. Husbands and families who wish to stay at Foxlease and explore the surrounding area while you are attending the course will be welcome.

For details of costs for the course and accommodation contact the Guider-in-Charge at Foxlease.

#### KNOWING ME, KNOWING YOU

WADDOW February 12-14

Who is it for?

What's it about?

This is your chance to discover how to tackle sensitive issues in training sessions. We will not look at individual issues in depth, but at how to approach sensitive topics with an open mind and deal with any problems.

Sessions will include:

- looking at your own attitudes
- dealing with difficult situations
- conflict
- negotiation skills.

#### SUPPORTING THE COMMISSIONER

FOXLEASE March 12-14 WADDOW February 12-14

This weekend will enable participants to become familiar with the revised Commissioner file, and the help it can give with training new Commissioners and those already warranted. There will be a practical look at the

responsibility of the County Commissioner as appointing Commissioner

The changes in the leadership training scheme for all Guiders starting in 1993 will also be covered. These weekends are for County Commissioners or their representatives.

#### THE GGA LEADERSHIP SCHEME THROUGH OPEN LEARNING

WADDOW February 26-28 FOXLEASE May 21-23

Open learning is a method of learning at home, which is particularly useful when it is not practical to attend a college or equivalent. For the past three years, a small group of interested Guiders have written, and piloted, training material to be used for open learning within the GGA.

This material is for use by adults who are working on the new Adult Leadership Scheme (Stages I and II) and who are unable to attend trainings arranged within their immediate area, or at the training centres.

Who is it for?

This training is for anyone who could make use of this material. You might be a District Commissioner who has Guiders who cannot attend trainings because of their pattern of work, their family circumstances or where they live. You might be an experienced Guider who feels that such people live in your area, and that you could help by acting as 'tutor' to those using open learning material. You might be a Chairman of Programme and Training, or a Trainer, who is interested in the material - and in helping with future developments.

At the training there will be an opportunity to see and use the package, and to

## TRAINING DIARY

share with others its use as I a method of training the Guiders of any section

#### LEADERSHIP FOR COMMISSIO

WADDOW April 16-18 **FOXLEASE** September 17-19

In Guiding. leadership involves making things happen by making it possible for others to make it happen. The real job of every Commissioner is not to do everything herself, but to enable others to make things happen. Thus, in order to help us to achieve our common purpose, good Guiding, Commissioners must have leadership skills.

During the weekend, we will explore:

- The responsibility of a good leader for the task, the team and the individual.
- Building your team and getting people to work together.
- How to encourage, enthuse and motivate your Guiders.
- Ways of finding an appropriate leadership style.
- Coping with problems.

Come to Foxlease or Waddow and find out more about leadership. Why not come as a Division group?

These trainings will help all Commissioners to be aware of the importance of leadership in their role Commissioners Designate or newly-appointed Commissioners will find this particularly useful.

#### YOUNG LEADERS IND THEIR ADVISERS

**FOXLEASE** April 2-4

Who is it for?

Any Young Leader or anyone working on the GGA Leadership slice of the leadership octant of the 15+ pilot, her Young Leader Adviser, Commissioner or Guider of the unit with whom she is working, or anyone with an interest in Young Leadership.

#### Come to Foxlease

Join in a weekend meeting with other Young Leaders I

and interested adults from all over the United Kingdom.

- You will be able to: brush up your leadership
- look at leadership from the Advisers' point of view
- have a look at the Queen's **Guide Award**
- ask questions
- try your hand at something a bit different
- explore Foxlease and remind yourself of some of Guiding's

#### PROGRAMME IDEAS FOR RAINBOW **GUIDERS**

**FOXLEASE** February 19-21

WADDOW July 16-18

Who is it for?

All Unit Guiders, Assistant Guiders and Young Leaders working or planning to work with Rainbow Guides.

#### What's it all about?

Gaining a host of new ideas to use in the Unit and having a fun weekend learning and sharing

Topics will include:

- programme planning
- promise and other ceremonies
- music and musical activities
- crafts
- story telling
- use of resources.

This training counts towards the requirements of the Adult Leadership Scheme (Stage III) and Part 2 clause 12 of the Young Leaders Scheme.

#### **TEAM BUILDING**

FOXLEASE

February 5-7 September 3-5 WADDOW

July 9-11

Good Guiding needs keen and motivated teams to manage its work and achieve results

These weekends at Foxlease and Waddow will explore the following issues:

- How can we build effective teams?
- How can we help to ensure that the contribution of each

team member is recognised and valued?

How can we engender and maintain team spirit?

The aims of the training are:

- to explore the role and function of the team in the management of Guiding
- to develop awareness of individual team roles
- to examine strategies for building effective teams.

The trainings are for any management' team in Guiding, from County Commissioner and Advisers, to Division and District Commissioners

For full details of future trainings, please send a sae to the Guider-in-Charge of the appropriate centre. Applications to attend any of the trainings mentioned should be made to the Guider-in-Charge of the appropriate centre, enclosing a £9 deposit and sae for Glenbrook and a £10 deposit and sae for Foxlease and Waddow.

#### TRAINING DATES

#### FOXLEASE

JANUARY

8-10 GO! Challenge for the older Brownie

15-17 Training skills for Advisers

22-24 1. Travelling east? 2. Healthy stress

#### **FEBRUARY**

**5-7** 1. Training in the Rainbow section. 2. Programme ideas for Rainbow Guiders

#### MARCH

12-14 Supporting the Commissioner

23-25 Opportunities unlimited\*

#### APRIL

2-4 Young Leaders and their Advisers

8-12 Easter eggstravaganza

#### WADDOW

JANUARY

8-10 Programme ideas for Brownie Guiders

FEBRUARY

12-14 1. Knowing me, know-

ing you 2. Supporting the Commissioner

#### 26-28

1. The things that matter 2. GGA Leadership Scheme through Open Learning

#### MARCH

19-21 The Promise in action

8-12 Easter eggstravaganza 16-18 1. First things first 2. Leadership for

Commissioners

#### **GLENBROOK**

**FEBRUARY** 

26-28 Advanced Walking

#### MARCH

19-21 Intermediate Walking

#### APRIL

30-May 2 1. D of E and Queen's Guide expedition and exploration 2. Guiders come and try it.

\* Midweek

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# FLOWERS FOR ROMANIA

With a little help from their friends, members of the Romanian GGA are working hard to re-establish Guiding in their country.







Happy faces from Class 3 at Institution No.6. Bucharest

## **ONE** WORLD

A box of goodies sent by kind-hearted b British Brownies has helped forge a chain of friendship linking an orphanage in Romania and a Brownie Pack in Buckinghamshire

The Romanian children appreciated all the gifts but it was an Easter treat that really appealed

It was last February when a delivery of Cadbury's Creme Eggs arrived at Institution No. 6. Bucharest — in plenty of time for Easter.

But the girls of Class 3 — 'Classa III' — at this Romanian orphanage just couldn't wait that long

They tore open the boxes and the Creme Eggs, sent to them by the 4th Chenies and Chalfont Brownies, in Buckinghamshire, were demolished there and then!

Not that the girls were famished. Charity workers who delivered the eggs for the Pack, reported being surprised at how healthy the children looked.

It was simply that, in their dreary world, this unexpected 'Easter' treat was too good to resist.

But those Creme Eggs really started something because, since then, a Flowers unit — the equivalent of our



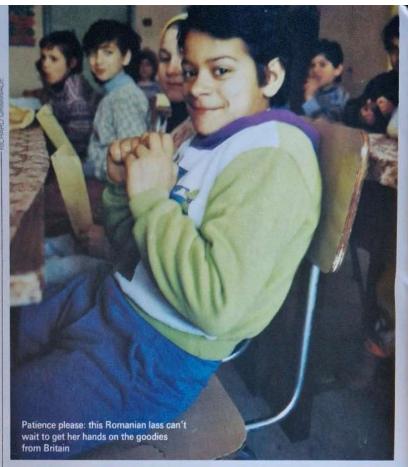
Sweet delight the Creme Eggs went down a treat

Brownies — has been opened at the orphanage for the girls of Class 3.

Frances Ashdown, Guider of the 4th Chenies and Chalfont Pack, explained how it all came about

Through my church, I was aware of the work of a group of church workers who eventually formed themselves into a charity called *To Romania with* Aid

In October, 1991, the charity was sending an aid team to Institution No.



6. which is an orphanage for about 200 girls aged between seven and 17. I arranged for the team to deliver a Brownie Box of gifts to the children of Brownie age at the orphanage.

That was why the box went to Class 3. Among the things we sent was a tape recorder, with a tape of Brownies singing Brownie songs, a *Brownie handbook*, a Brownie doll, felt pens and sweets.

The delight of the Romanian girls was captured on video by one of the charity team, so my Brownies were able to see the effect for themselves. The Brownies then sent letters and birthday cards, as well as the Creme Eggs to Class 3.

I had heard that Romania had a newly-formed GGA and I wrote to ask if there was any chance of a Brownie unit being formed at the orphanage.

Two months later I was thrilled to hear that the President of the Romanian Association herself had been there and cleared the necessary papers in order to run a group of Flowers with Class 3.

So we are now in touch on a unit-tounit basis and the girls in Class 3 are beginning to realise that, if they write to us, one of the Brownies will write back. This is probably the first post the Romanian girls have ever had

Guiding is now firmly established and thriving in Romania, only two years after being 're-seeded' there by the Greek GGA

By this summer Romania had seven flourishing Flower units and two Guide

units — all in Bucharest. Plans were also under way to open another Flower unit, this time at Cluj, a large industrial town in north-east central Romania.

Flower units have four groups of six girls, which they call, very appropriately, 'Bunches', making 24 in the standard-sized unit.

Flowers wear the former uniform of the Greek Association, consisting of a brown sleeveless dress, yellow blouse, green cap and a bow with little flowers around the neck.

Seven units in the entire country may seem like a modest beginning but the Romania GGA is treading with caution — anxious not to expand too rapidly, before sufficient trained leaders are available.

Meanwhile, the Greek GGA continues to work closely with the new Romanian Guide leaders, including their Englishspeaking President loana Cretoiu

In October, 1990, they were visited by a WAGGGS delegation and the girl Guides Association of Romania came into being officially on March 1, 1991, with the approval of the Romanian government

Leaders recruited so far are mostly from the professions and include doctors, architects, teachers and older students in higher education. Already they have taken part in trainings and other events in Greece, Belgium, France and Poland.

In a report to GUIDING, to an a Cretoru wrote. "We get on little by little endeavouring to get a solid base. We



are very proud of our progress, which wouldn't have been possible without the help and friendship of other Guide associations and the World Bureau.

An upbeat report, but it went on to mention some of the many difficulties in setting up a country-wide association in Romania.

There was a lack of money, facilities and equipment, she explained But another problem was conveying the message and spirit of Guiding in a country where few people had ever heard of the Movement.

Julie Stone, District Commissioner for Morecambe and Brownie Guider with the 14th Morecambe Pack, met loana Cretoiu when she went to Romania in September, 1991.

Moved by the plight of Romanians living in extreme poverty, she and a colleague at work had become involved with an old people's home at Pitesti, about 70 miles from Bucharest. They flew out to assess the needs at the home but, before leaving the UK, Julie arranged to meet loana when she had finished in Pitesti.

Here, Julie recalls the 1991 encounter which led to various units in her County — Lancashire North West — becoming involved with Romanian Guiding.

6 I set off for Bucharest with a suitcase full of balls, string, books, pencils and paper loana was delighted with everything but the evening was marred by the miners' riot ... only two streets away. We were tear-gassed and kept awake for most of the night by gunfire.



also had support from the County.

Last May I set off alone for Bucharest with a suitcase full of everything from balloons and hair ribbons to first-aid kits and skipping ropes.

During my 12-day stay, I was able to visit all the Flower units and one of the Guide units. Guides had started only in January and I was invited to the first Promise Ceremony, held in the President's house.

The girls, from fairly poor families, all came from a nearby boarding school. They had been given old-style Greek uniforms.

Most Flower meetings were held at schools — either in a classroom or in the playground. In one school the meeting was held in a corridor because there was more space in which to play

They were short of ideas for games and activities and I was able to show them some games needing little or no equipment. Flowers wearing Greek

For them, one of the most difficult things was to wear uniform. Memories of the Pioneers, and what they stood for, were still very strong, so even those who had a uniform were not always keen to wear it.

We in Britain find it hard to appreciate what they have been through, and that they are still fearful of the future.

The poverty is very hard to come to terms with. There are beggars of all ages on the streets. Some thrust small children in your arms as you walk by and can become violent.

The economy has become worse since I was there. The post is unreliable and sometimes does not arrive at all. It can take several hours to make a local call.

But I am returning to Romania to continue, I hope, what I have started, as I now feel committed to the country for life. The Romanians are wonderful people 9



When I returned to England, I mmediately started making plans to go back, this time to visit the units and meet the girls and their Guiders.

There was a tremendous response from our local Guides and Brownies. who started to raise money and collect informs and programme materials.

games There was very little equipment
— five pairs of scissors were shared by

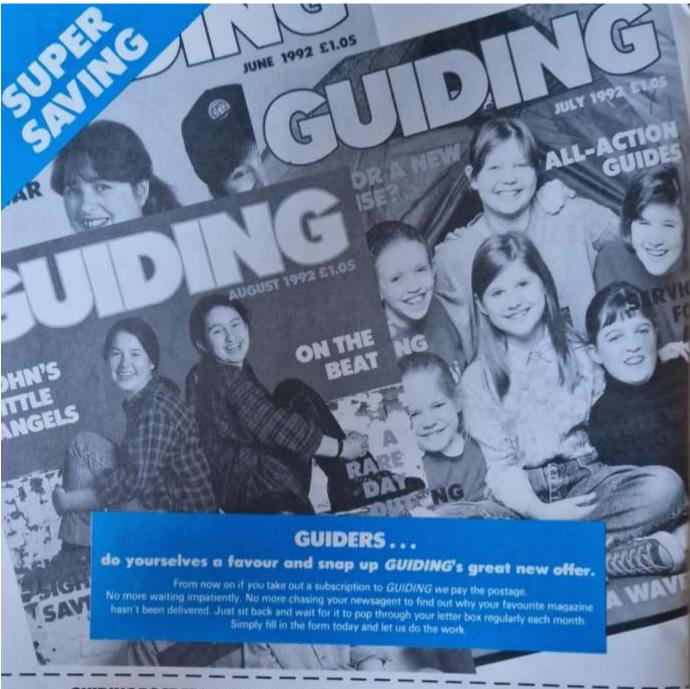
The Guiders had tremendous enthusiasm, against all the odds. They were wonderful with the girls and gave up so much time to learn about the Movement.

Guiding started in Romania as Girl Scouts soon after the end of the 1914-18 war but never flourished to the extent it did in countries like Czechoslovakia and Poland.

In 1935 membership of a new state-sponsored youth movement became obligatory in state schools. After a struggle, Girl Scout leaders obtained an agreement that those who were already Girl Scouts would not be compelled to join the state organisation.

Inevitably, the Girl Scouts faded away as the state movement enveloped the country until it, too, faded away, only to be replaced by another politically-inspired organisation — the Pioneers — after the 1939-45 war.

Flowers wearing their Greek uniforms in Bucharest



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# YOUR LETTERS

 'Cost Query' in October's GUIDING is still provoking letters.

#### 'GOBSMACKED'

In our District meeting this week all the Guiders were gobsmacked at the letter that said the Guiders should not pay.

We have been camping for nearly 30 years and we have never, ever thought that we should not pay. It says that the Guiders are 'Giving up their time'. We all give up our time, some weeks two nights and some weeks five to seven nights — never mind camping.

We, as a District, have never been subsidised at camp — why should we? It sounds like a 'chore' in the letter. We don't think you should expect to go free. You eat the same food, you go on the same bus, coach, car and so on.

We think that everyone should pay their dues, even more so now in a time of unemployment.

This is a voluntary organisation and the minute you go to camp free, it becomes 'paid', and that's another kettle of fish altogether!

We think if you need to subsidise a camp, all should get the same whack, and not just the Guiders.

MRS R SLATER

Secretary, Crumpsall District, Manchester

#### WRITE TO REPLY

First I want to comment on the letter 'Age Change' in October's GUIDING. Has the 'frustrated Guide Guider' ever spoken to a Brownie from the age range she refers to? From an onwards my Brownies are introduced to Guides a visits to and from the Guide Company and chats with myself — an ex-Guide.

My Brownies do not want to go to Guides at ten indeed I have a task persuading them to leave at 11

As for programmes running on a three-year cycle, I'd never heard of such a thing until reading of it in this letter. Has 'frustrated' ever communicated with a local Brownie Pack and tried a series of liaison exercises? Give it a try — you'll keep a few more girls in the Movement.

Second, 'Camp Comment' brings forth comment. I don't want my Pack Holidays to be an 'extension of a family camp'. I like to do different activities and teach the girls to be independent and look after themselves. Pack Holiday is demanding enough without having the extra pressures of erecting tents beforehand.

Also, not having read into the subject of Brownie camps, I presume an adult would need to sleep in the tents with the girls. I prefer separate sleeping arrangements — the leaders need some private space! That's right, I don't agree with Brownie camps!

I agree with 'Cost Query' in October's GUIDING — adults on a Pack holiday should contribute towards the cost of their food. Say £5-£10 for 4-5 days.

MRS SARA McNICOL

1st Sedlescombe Brownies Battle District Rye Division

 Recent letters in GUIDING from Guiders whose long service has gone unnoticed prompted these two comments.

#### MUCH APPRECIATED

I retired from active Guiding in July this year, after 22 years as a Brownie Guider in three different Counties and as a Commissioner and a Rainbow Guider in one. At the last District meeting I attended, my fellow Guiders had arranged a party where they presented me with a card and a gift. This was repeated at my last meeting with my unit. Our County Commissioner was there and she added her own tribute to the others I received.

The result was that I felt that I was much appreciated and would be missed by all concerned, although it should have been myself who showed gratitude for the many years of friendship and pleasure I have enjoyed through Guiding.

I know that I shall miss
the girls, but I do intend to
retain links (through the
Trefoil Guild) with the
Movement which has
given me so much. The
Guiding spirit is still very
much alive — in this part
of the world at least.

MRS B OWENS Haverfordwest Dyfed

#### LONG SERVICE PROGRAM

In October's GUIDING there is a notice announcing the introduction of a 30 year Long Service Bar. For 10 and 20 year Bars it seems one has to ask for one oneself (a Commissioner or fellow Guider rarely knows how long a colleague has had a warrant, even if they think of it) — and how many Guiders want to do that?

I recently telephoned our Regional HQ to find out how many years my retiring Assistant had clocked up and was asked to ring back when the computer operator was there. Now, if the records have been transferred on to computer then it should surely not be too difficult to run a program, say every Census, which says which Guiders are eligible for Service Bars that year and invite them or their District to send for the appropriate Bar?

In answer to 'Cost Query' in October, our Guiders pay half the girls' camp fee, which at our camp in fact covered food. I did object when some years ago I had to take my two young boys if I wished to camp and was asked for three full fees!

Also in the October edition, the green camp site and holiday house pull-out. A good idea and many thanks — I didn't even know 'the book' existed.

#### PATRICIA SALTMARSH

Guider 1st Four Marks Guides North Hants

#### WORTHY SUCCESSORS

I read with very great interest your articles on Guernsey in August's and September's GUIDING. I was privileged, in my capacity as President of South West England, to attend the 80th birthday celebrations in the Bailiwick.

I was able, in my six days on the island, to see quite a lot of Guernsey Guiding and was most impressed with the high level of all I saw. They may be living on an island but they are by no means insular in their activities.

I greatly enjoyed a short visit to Alderney — they have 100 per cent membership in the Brownies of all the girls in that age group. And, at the other end of the spectrum, they have a very active

Working Group, who meet to support Guiding and raise money annually by making innumerable pounds of marmalade

The Rainbows of another District invited me to their celebratory tea-party which the Governor's wife, Lady Wilkins, also attended. It was my first real experience of Rainbows and I was immensely impressed by the way in which two Units had completely integrated two disabled Rainbows.

The Guides and Guiders of the Bailiwick today are certainly worthy successors to those who started the Movement there in 1912 and who kept it alive during the dark days of the occupation.

JESSICA BLOOMAN
Bournemouth
Dorset

#### **GUIDING LIFE**

What a shock to be greeted at our first Guide meeting after the summer break with a glass of champagne, a splendid buffet supper. 24
Brownies, 20 Guides, Guiders old and new from past and present, parents too numerous to mention and the words 'Sheila Randall — This is your Guiding life'!

With the help of a 'history book' put together by my Young Leader, a Guide, two parents and my daughter, we were all taken through the last 38 (yes, 38!) years. From Brownie, Guide and Ranger days in Newcastle-under-Lyme to Tawny Owl in Wolstanton; international camp in Jutland, Denmark (1965); Assistant Guider in Ghana. West Africa, to Cheshire Forest and a m , morable trip to Finland - I was reminded of it all.

How nice to hear by tape from my 'big' sister that I was always quite useful at camp. I remembered the first-ever Strolling Players. Camp held at Foxlease in 1963. I still feel privileged to have attended this.

Memories also came flooding back of camp fires on the beach in Africa with songs breaking naturally into parts as my Ghanaian Guides let their voices drift into the night.

Now, years later, here I am still enjoying the outof-doors and trying to give the girls the fun, the experiences and the feeling of international friendship I had.

I wonder how many of them will look back on their Guiding lives with the same nostalgia and thanks for those of *us* who do our best to lead the way.

It's a trifle nerve-racking to have one's life put on a pedestal for all to see, but lovely to be reminded of all the good things Guiding has done for me. And also to be shown such appreciation by those in the game now.

Let's remember with joy and never forget the thrill of those experiences we have all had. Whether we are new to it ourselves or old-stagers like me, we have such a lot we can now offer our girls. Let's make sure we do offer exciting activities to give them nostalgic memories!

#### SHEILA RANDALL (née Gilks)

Guider
3rd Thelwall Guide
Company and District
Commissioner
Cheshire Forest

# COMBINED

The census figures shown in October's GUIDING make interesting reading. While the Association is to be congratulated on an overall increase in membership of 20,725 from last year's total, the number of units administered has dropped in the Brownie and Ranger sections

Within my own Division, two Districts have recently combined and I know of many units that have done so, mainly due to lack of adult leaders.

One aspect of my jobs

as Public Relations Adviser for BGIFC and for Havant Division, is to promote Guiding and help to find Guiders. It appears to me that, both in overseas countries and locally, we are still struggling to attract busy women into Guiding.

Maybe the answer is to combine. Surely the increase in membership is due to large, successful units run by a team of enthusiasts pulling girls in, whereas a struggling unit with a dispirited Guider spells failure. It would be relatively easy to find someone to make up part of a team, but the all too familiar cry 'Come and run our Brownie Pack' has negative results.

In the commercial world we see many companies streamlining their management, mostly because of economic reasons. The Guiding game we offer has to be cost-effective too. With hall rents rising, and some venues disappearing, a combined unit makes sense. It is able to run its meetings without the constant hassle of having to fund raise.

So, what if you have to combine? Don't dwell on the negative aspects of a lost unit, but the more positive ones of giving the girls a better standard of Guiding with more opportunities to run an adventurous programme! Remember — 'many hands make light work'.

#### ANGELA FRENCH PRA BGIFC Havant Division

Havant Division Rainbow Guider

Following letters about the Brownie Water Rescue and Swimmer Advanced badges, two more Guiders offer their suggestions.

#### **WATER DANGER**

I have read with interest the various letters concerning the Brownie Water Rescue badge and, having tried this badge with Brownies, would agree that it is much too difficult for Brownies I would, however, disagree with other correspondents as to the reason for taking this badge.

Previous letters have given the impression that the only reason for taking it is so that Brownies can take the Advanced Swimmer badge. I would suggest that the reason for taking this badge is to teach Brownies about the dangers of water and what to do if someone should fall in

If this is the case, the badge should be within the reach of all Brownies, as are the Road Safety and Crime Prevention badges, which also teach Brownies about some very important hazards.

The Water Rescue badge could be left as it is, but without the rope throwing to 6m and 8m. Brownies are unlikely to need these skills in an emergency as, if they were walking along by a river and someone fell in, it would be very unlikely that anyone would have such a long rope in their rucsac!

**JULIE WEST** 

Brownie Guider 4th Thame Brownie Pack

#### **VALID PLOY**

We found the solution to the problem was to stand the Brownies on a low bench (as used in schools for PE). This gave them the height they needed and they were able to throw the rope the required distance from this vantage point.

This is a valid ploy as in a practical situation the bank of a river or canal is likely to be higher than the water level.

#### TRIXIE SMITH

Brownie Guider 19th Sheffield Pack Sheffield

Letters should be kept as brief as possible and the Editor reserves the right to edit any contribution. Letters must carry the author's name, address and, if possible, a daytime phone number.



With barely a language in common, 34 girls from all over the Guiding world celebrated the 60th anniversary of Our Chalet with an extravaganza of song and dance.

Even the rhythms of their native music and dance were different but the girls, from 18 countries representing every section of WAGGGS, worked for eight days to put together a presentation on the birthday theme, The Past, a Present for the Future, to be performed during the celebrations.

Led by Marion Prior from the UK and Judy Waters from Canada, they created six scenes to highlight what Our Chalet has given to Guiding. During the two days of celebration on July 31 and August 1 they performed the sequence three times

Our Chalet was given to Guiding by Helen Storrow, who was played in one performance by Mary Vance Trent, who received a Juliette Low Award in 1932. After 'Helen's conversation with Falk' - Falk was the nickname given to Ida von Herrenschwand, the first Guiderin-Charge — the opening sequence showed how Our Chalet was built.

Once the 'shutters' were in place the audience could glimpse the special quests who were able to attend the celebrations: some of the original Juliette Low Award winners of 1932 and 1933; Cigogne (Yvonne Cuénod) the first Deputy Guider-in-Charge; and Vlasta and Mieke from Czechoslovakia, representing the Eastern European Guides we hope will soon be able to visit Our Chalet again.

The second scene followed the development of the Chalet song, while the third celebrated in dance the contributions made by the Guiders-in-Charge and their staff.

Perhaps the most difficult to master was the maypole dance in honour of England's Pen (Penelope Cullingford née Wood-Hill). The current Guider-in-Charge, Maha Salhani, joined in a dance from her native Lebanon.

Next the girls celebrated the teamwork between Our Chalet and the inhabitants of the village of Adelboden by portraying the bus drivers, the woodcarver and The farmer with his bell-laden cow.

The international friendship fostered Our Chalet over the last 60 years symbolised by girls wearing interational costumes and uniforms who I



# EBRATIONS AT DUR CHAIFT

Our Chalet's 60th birthday was well worth making a song and dance about.

wove wide ribbons into a colourful carpet.

And, in a moving finale, the wish 'Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me' was repeated in different languages

It was a fitting tribute to the way Our Chalet has kept faith with the vision of its founders. At its opening, the Chief Scout saw Our Chalet as a 'school of goodwill among the future women of all nations where Guides from all countries would gather together for recreation and to learn Guiding with a new spirit essential for peace and happiness in the world.

As the girls demonstrated, peace is still Our Chalet's gift to the future.

Among the birthday presents Our Chalet received were donations to the Spycher Fund, which will be used to build a second chalet.

Betty Clay, the Founder's daughter. Blooman representing WAGGGS; Piera Fleiner on behalf of Swiss Guiding and Scouting, and Marion Read, who was present at the opening of Our Chalet, were among the special guests who attended the festivities on July 31. Former Guidersin-Charge and staff, committee members and friends and neighbours from Adelboden were invited to share a magnificent buffet and listen to the speeches

On Swiss National Day, August 1, several hundred visitors, many from the UK, joined the official colour ceremony and made the most of the 'chibli' (fair).

As dusk fell, red lanterns with white crosses representing the Swiss flag were carried in procession around the little spur known as 'Eggetli' where Our Chalet stands

The procession ended on the mountainside looking down on a bonfire and listening as an alpenhorn sounded the notes of the Chalet song. All around, other bonfires flared into life. creating pinpoints of light high and low on the mountainside. A cascade of fireworks ended a memorable evening.

ANN MITCHELL

Chairman, Our Chalet Committee

 Donations for the Spycher Fund can. still be sent to Ann Mitchell.

# PEOPLE AMA PLACES

#### **MERCY MISSION**

In spite of their smiles, Rainbows Holly Scott and Claire Clarke have a serious mission. They aim to raise funds for starving children in Somalia. To help save lives, the 1st Milltimber Unit, Aberdeen, are selling quiz sheets devised by their Guider, Rosa Loader. Holly and Claire just can't wait to get started filling their answers in.

#### **GOLDEN GIRL**

This super rainbow collage, complete with pot of gold, was created by Rainbow Guider and Brownie Unit Helper Marjorie Lingard to celebrate the enrolment of the first Rainbows in Stretton District, Cheshire. No wonder Marjorie's Guiding colleagues all think she's 'worth her weight in gold.'











#### **QUACKING TIME**

▲ Who are you calling chicken? These four Brownies from the 2nd Poulner Pack in Hampshire are ducks and proud of it. In fact, they're completely quackers about their paddle-on part in the Ringwood Camival.

#### **WAITING GAME**

◆Even waiting for a train can be fun when you're with friends. This happy bunch of Young Leaders and Rangers was snapped at London's St Pancras station on the first leg of their journey to Sangam on an Experiment in International Living trip.

#### **BROWNIE PALS**

Chums Frances Parsons and Joni Sloan know that a best friend is someone worth holding on to. The pals are both members of Gosforth Brownies from Cumbria and were enjoying a Pack Holiday when this shot was taken.

#### **CLOWNING AROUND**

All mouth and trousers — that's Guider Lyn Parkinson of the 19th Wigan Town Company, Lancashire. But she did have excuse for her daft behaviour. She taking part in Standish Carnival to the praise £114 for a local hospice.





Daring Sue Emerson is heading for deepest Africa in search of a legendary 'dinosaur' known as the 'Mokele'. But really Sue should be hunting an entirely different beast in another continent.

Originally Sue, a bubbly 33-yearold always ready for a challenge, signed up for a completely different quest - a search for the Indian Buru.

She first heard about the expedition through the BBC TV programme Pebble Mill at One. Children's writer and TV presenter Tommy Boyd appeared on the programme to talk about his quest to find a legendary creature in India. known as the Buru.

While researching his new book Monster Monster, he had discovered the tale of the 'Dragons of Assam' and realised the story had never been fully investigated.

Sue wrote to Tommy immediately after the show, volunteering to join his expedition to Assam in North East

The expedition was organised by WildQuest, a professional expedition company famed for its exciting exploits.

Just six women were later picked from thousands of applicants who'd heard about the expedition. Before she was chosen. Sue had to get through a gruelling selection weekend. She spent days trekking in the Peak District with hardly any sleep, and she had to complete challenges such as making a water pump and a mud oven.

Without her Guiding experience. Sue maintains she would never have coped There is no way I would have got in without my Guiding experience," she said

Then, suddenly, disaster struck. The original expedition had to be aban-



doned. The group were warned of terrorist activity in the area and advised by the Home Office not to go in.

But the adventurers had put so much work into the project, they refused to give in. So, when WildQuest

#### THE MOKELE DINOSAUR

A 'sauropod', the Mokele is believed to live deep in unexplored areas of the African Congo. About 20 feet long, it has short, stumpy legs, a long, thick tail, scaly skin, and an 'expressive' face. It can be very dangerous.

offered them a new venture, this time to Africa, they jumped at the chance

I actually prefer this trip,' Sue said 'I'll be able to use my diving skills in the caves and do a lot of canoeing. It'll be more satisfying because I'll be able to give more expense to the expedition."

Called Cameroon '93, the new expedition will be officially registered with the Royal Geographical Society. All discoveries will be recorded, putting the team in the history books along with other famous explorers.

The team plan to fly to Cameroon's capital, Douala, and then travel by train into the largely English-speaking Manfe district

Their first challenge will be to get into the African Congo, by whatever means it takes - even sub-aqua diving and canoeing

The adventurers plan to set up camp on the Manga river. From there, they will head for the Congo basin to hunt for half-submerged caves, where they believe they'll find the legendary Mokels

Locals have reported sightings of Mokele browsing on river weed, so once they find the caves, the explorers will build hides to watch the river

They will search the cave entrances for tracks - and then venture into the

# AFRICAN ADVENTURE

dark caves, using recordings of water levels, rainfall and acidity to see if it's safe to enter.

The explorers will keep a log of all sightings — invaluable to the Cameroon authorities and future expeditions.

The Mokele is believed to browse on a particular type of river weed, so the explorers plan to locate and record stocks of the weed, to find out if it is being grazed.

Three hides will be manned during the day and one at night. A trip wire or trigger beam will activate cameras after dark, should the Mokele appear. Records will be kept of other wildlife seen from the hides.

The team will also gather information for map corrections, as well as data on ancient sites and forest flora and fauna.

It's the chance of a lifetime — and a chance I didn't think I'd ever get,' Sue said. When she sets off this month, Sue will be leaving her thriving Guide unit, 2nd Sidcup, in the capable hands of the local Commissioner. The unit is the oldest surviving in Sidcup.

When Sue joined Guiding she found it tough at first. 'I was never a Brownie or a Guide and I only took the Promise as an adult,' she explained.

I did not even know how to tie a knot properly — and that is the honest touth

Ten years ago somebody I knew said they needed a Brownie Guider and so I volunteered. At the age of 23, you'll do anything for a laugh!

Tonly went for a few weeks to help out Within three weeks I was in uniform—and I stayed for eight years.

"I had no idea what Guiding was all about I had no idea about camping — I hadn't even been in a tent before — and at first I thought: "Oh no, what have I let myself in for?"

Then I thought: "Oh well, it's a

challenge." It took me a good year before I settled down into it.

'But now I love it. I've learned all my knots, how to light a fire and how to put my Guides through Trefoils. I've just got one through her Baden-Powell Award and numbers have risen

#### **TOMMY BOYD**

Children's TV presenter Tommy Boyd has always been fascinated by monsters and recently published a book called *Monster Monster*.

'I have always wanted to explore somewhere that nobody has ever been into. These days, there are very few things left to go and look for every mountain worth climbing has been climbed, every sea has been sailed. But we are going into parts of the African Congo that have never really been explored,' he said.

Tve always been interested in monsters and when I was on Pebble Mill at One! mentioned that I wanted to do an expedition. I got so many letters from people who said they'd be interested I decided to give it a go. One of the letters was from WildQuest offering their expertise for the project.

This trip is all about having a whale of a good time — away from the concrete of urban life — and doing something completely different.

'I am confident that we will get into the African Congo because we have got very good people who have the motivation and the determination to do it. Whatever we need to do to get there, we will do it.'

from five to 16, which is excellent."

Guiding introduced Sue to a whole new world. I went on one of these Guide weekend "Come and try" things," Sue said. Through that I started subaqua diving. I've also tried parachuting and parascending. If there is anything going, I will have a go."

And she's found it wonderful training for the expedition.

'It's really nice being the Guider in the team. I take all my Guide handbooks with me to training weekends and everyone sits there reading them. And, if there is a knot that is needed — especially lashing. I usually get roped in to do that.'

But the most thrilling aspect is that the team has absolutely no idea what to expect. They will need to keep their wits about them at all times and they'll need nerves of steel to venture into the deep caves. They also expect to encounter crocodiles and soldier ants.

'We are putting our lives on the line here,' Sue said. 'At one point we were worried and started to say. "How real is this? What is WildQuest?"

'But Tommy Boyd is a real explorer in his own right, so we have confidence in the project.'

When Sue sets off, 2nd Sidcup Guides will be anxiously charting their Guider's progress. My Guides are 100 per cent behind me. Sue said. I told them what we'd be doing and what was going on and they said: "Yeah, go for it."

'I have always told them that it doesn't matter who you are, you can go for it — just do what you want to do. I have never done anything like this before and I would like to be an inspiration for all women.'

Sue has put her career in marketing on hold, as she is determined to take up this challenge of a lifetime, while she is young, free and single.

The only thing I am frightened of is having injections, she said. I hate them! Other than that, I can't wait. It's the adventure. I'm 33 years old, and I won't ever get a chance like this again.

NICOLA WHATMORE

# 

#### DISCLAIMER REMINDER

Inclusion in this section should not be taken to mean that the Association has checked out and endorses the atte or accommodation advertised. Guiders are reminded that they should obtain permission from their Camp or Pack Hollday Adviser and their District Commissioner before making a booking and should com-plete the appropriate forms.

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Brochure from the Warden, Downe Scout Camp, Bird House, Downe, Nr. Orpington, Kent. BR6 7LJ. Telephone: 0959 572121.

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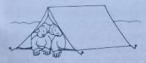
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winde skills.

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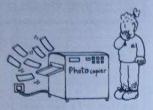
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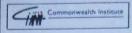
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#### ANITA REYNOLDS FROM BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE

At 23, Anita is a Division Commissioner, Assistant Guider, executive secretary and bride-to-be.

€1 think I was asked to be Division Commissioner as a joke. The job was offered to me when I spoke up at a meeting held by my County Commissioner. They looked slightly horrified when I accepted!

I was just 23 at the time. It was April 1, which was quite appropriate given the circumstances of the offer.

I knew the previous Commissioner was retiring and I thought I could do the job just as well, and bring a young and more enthusiastic outlook to the position.

What I'd love to do in my five years as Division Commissioner is to change the old, fuddy-duddy image of Guiding.

It really annoys me when somebody, who knows nothing about Guiding, says we are too old-fashioned and irrelevant for modern girls. Those people are totally unaware of the progressive changes we're making and the opportunities provided through Guiding.

I guess I've always been the moaner in my District. I can't help it. It's because I used to find the image of Guiding very frustrating. That's why my appointment was seen as a joke because. I presume, some people

thought I was a bit of a trouble-maker.

I know I'm not going to change the world but, at least, I can make an impression in my Division. So far I've held a cheese and wine evening for the other Commissioners. It was a great success and there's talk of hosting more.

I've also jazzed up our annual swimming gala, so everyone will be rewarded with something. More importantly, I'm going to publicise the opportunities which Guiding offers. It's a shame that some Guides never realise these, so I'm holding an international opportunities evening.

With over 300 Brownies and Guides in the three Districts, I'm sure there'll be plenty of interest. I wish this side of Guiding had been publicised when I was a Guide.

I've been in Guiding since I started as a Brownie here in Basingstoke. I moved on to being a Guide but my happiest memories are from my Ranger days. I adored being a Ranger. We were all great friends and performed in the Basingstoke Gang Show with the local Venture Scouts.

I tried my hand at dancing and singing, it was such fun, and we still

# LIFE

have reunions a few times a year. Rangers really give you the chance to make friends for life.

The Gang Show was also the place where I met my fiancé, Steve — a strapping Venture Scout at the time. We're getting married next September and we hope to have a Guide guard of honour from my Company, the 2nd Brighton Hill, at the church.

Having been a Scout, Steve knows all about the high level of commitment and involvement that's needed. And he understands why I'm out and about most evenings. I don't think he minds, it gives him a chance to meet his friends.

Although he's not involved in the Scouts anymore, he does help out with my Company, where I'm an Assistant Guider. There are 30 girls in the Company, so we do need all the help we can get.

I don't want to lose touch with the girls because I'm Division Commissioner, because it's so rewarding being an Assistant Guider. I made it clear I wanted to remain one but I guess I'll have to learn to delegate responsibilities or it'll be taking over my life.

I think I've managed to combine my career with IBM and Guiding quite successfully. I've been with IBM for four years and have just been promoted. I'm now executive secretary for the consultancy and professional services director.

It's such a huge company. I hope my career will go from strength to strength. They're very supportive of Guiding — it's really surprising how many of the staff are involved with the Movement.

I hope I will make a difference in my Division. I really want to get across how Guiding equips girls with skills that give them a chance in the world.

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